

THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Home thoughts...
William Douglas Home reviews his brother Alec's (Lord Home) Letters to a Grandson

... from abroad
In the second of a three-part series on Cyprus, Edward Mortimer looks at the views of both sides in dispute over the island Hard...

Leon Brittan, the new Home Secretary, talks to *The Times* about law and order

... and fast
The Times Profile: Sebastian Coe, on the eve of the AAA championships this weekend

Greenpeace seven held in Siberia

Seven Greenpeace anti-whaling campaigners were arrested in Siberia after they claimed to have photographed illegal Soviet whaling operations at the port of Leningrad. They were said to have been detained for illegally entering Soviet territory Report, page 6

Opec strategy
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Law of the gun

The right of militiamen and security agents to shoot at Polish civilians has been spelt out for the first time in a new law Page 6

Ferry action

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service has been called in by the ferry company Townsend Thoreson in an attempt to resolve the 10-day strike at Felixstowe, Suffolk and Caernarfon, Scotland.

Queen's escape
Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands, holidaying in Italy, escaped uninjured when the car she was driving was in a collision. An Italian couple received minor injuries.

Coe opts out

Sebastian Coe does not want to be selected for the 1,500 metres in the world championships in Helsinki next month. He has not given any reason for his decision.

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Lawson hints at tax cuts in return for spending curbs

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, will tell his Cabinet colleagues tomorrow that there could be significant tax cuts in the next Budget if they agree to hold down public spending to its original planned level.

At the moment government departments want to spend £5,000m above published plans, but eliminating them could create scope for perhaps £2,000m of tax reductions next spring, he will argue.

Such reductions would be equivalent to knocking 2p off the basic rate of income tax from 30p to 28p in the pound.

By holding out the hope of tax cuts, Mr Lawson will be aiming to smooth the ruffled feathers of spending ministers angered by what they saw as the Chancellor's "bully-boy" tactics in forcing through his £500m emergency cuts package two weeks ago.

The Budget last March suggested that if public spending in 1984-85 remained at the planned £126,400m this would leave room for about £500m of tax cuts. But Mr Lawson has another card up his sleeve.

He will ask the Cabinet to agree to leave untouched the £5,000m contingency reserve included in next year's plans. This would normally be used to accommodate some of the extra spending bids from government departments, leaving a reserve of £500m for unexpected spending during

the summer recess.

Mrs Thatcher said yesterday in the Commons that the Government expected to adhere to published spending plans for this year and next.

This leaves Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury in charge of public spending, with the thankless task of whittling away the £500m in excess bids.

Though some of the excess typically reflects proposals for new programmes and "padding" which can be eliminated fairly easily, some will eventually

Thatcher hint on share monopoly

Stock Exchange may escape court case

By Philip Robinson

Mrs Thatcher yesterday paved the way for the Stock Exchange to avoid having its rules dragged through the Restrictive Practices Court.

The Prime Minister told MPs during question time in the Commons that if proposals were made by the Stock Exchange Council to settle the action taken by the Office of Fair Trading, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was prepared to consider them.

Proceedings against the Stock Exchange were started after the Office of Fair Trading decided that parts of the Exchange's rule book contravened the 1976 Restrictive Practices Act.

The rules say the public can buy shares only through stockbrokers who must buy them only through stockjobbers who trade in the market. The jobbers are not allowed to deal direct with the public. The Exchange also lays down a minimum charge for each transaction. The OFT argues that these represent a restrictive practice.

Mrs Thatcher said: "This case's still before the court but that does not preclude the Stock Exchange Council making proposals to settle the matter."

The sudden settlement proposal comes after seven years of intensive lobbying and a total

cessation of both the Stock Exchange and the Office of Fair Trading.

Howe's radical rescue plan divides EEC

From Ian Murray, Brussels

EEC foreign ministers split into opposed camps over money-saving proposals unveiled by Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday with the aim of preventing the Community from going bankrupt.

Detailed Britain's rescue plan, Sir Geoffrey proposed limits on agricultural spending and a new system of budget payments based on national means designed to eliminate perennial arguments over members' contribution to community revenue.

The proposals were described as "very interesting" by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister,

Reforms sought page 6

Fossil-hunter unearths Surrey dinosaur

By John Witherow

A Surrey plumber emerged yesterday as the man responsible for what the Natural History Museum, in a fit of enthusiasm, described as possibly "the most important find in Britain this century". Mr William Walker, aged 55, of Springfield Road, Thornton Heath, an amateur fossil collector with a penchant for digging around in the mud at weekends, has turned up the skeleton of an unknown species of carnivorous dinosaur, "dating back 124 million years."

Last January Mr Walker discovered a huge clawbone in a Surrey claypit. "I recognized it as a dinosaur claw but I didn't know how important it was," he said. "I gave it a good crack with my hammer and the whole

thing disintegrated. I really could have cried. It just shattered."

His son-in-law later took it to the Natural History Museum, where its appearance set pulses racing in the palaeontology department. They were able to identify the foot-long clawbone, indicating the discovery of a new species.

Two scientists set off to the Surrey claypit but were frustrated by the wet spring which turned the area into a sea of mud. It was only last month that they could complete their work of removing the vast loads of bone to form a large proportion of the skeleton.

The clawbone of this dinosaur, similar to the megalosaurus, is larger than that of the later *Tyrannosaurus Rex*, one of the most vicious of flesh eaters. The museum estimates its height at between 10 and 15ft while standing upright and said it would have eaten vegetarian dinosaurs found in the same quarry. Much of the skull is present, with two-inch "teeth" serrated like steak knives."



The cracked Sikorsky being winched up from the sea yesterday.

17 bodies found as crashed helicopter is salvaged

By Craig Seton and Rupert Morris

The fuselage of the crashed Sikorsky 61 helicopter Oscar November was recovered from 200ft-deep water off St Mary's, in the Isles of Scilly, yesterday.

The bodies of only 17 of the 20 people, mostly holidaymakers, who died Saturday's crash were found inside.

Last night the bodies were being taken from the salvage vessel to Penzance for identification by relatives. The police sent officers to help in identifying the dead.

The fuselage, from which only six people escaped, was being taken on to Falmouth and then by road to the Government's accident investigation unit at Farnborough, Hampshire. There experts will examine it in an attempt to discover the cause of the accident.

The helicopter, much of its body intact, was winched on to the deck of the Senor Clausen just before 1pm.

Two coroner's officers were on board the salvage tug as a group of men dressed in white

protective overalls and black gloves clambered inside the Sikorsky and began bringing out the bodies. Some of the dead were still strapped in their seats when the machine was brought to the surface.

The six who survived the crash were the two pilots, two Scilly women and two children orphaned in the accident.

The others, including two families of five people, had been carried beneath the waves: The helicopter, which had been on its way to Penzance, sank almost immediately.

Divers found the fuselage on its side on a steep sandy slope on the undulating seabed.

The helicopter, seen from a distance of less than 100 yards after it was brought to the surface, appeared to have suffered only comparatively minor structural damage. Several windows in the pilot's cockpit were missing and its black nose cone had gone, as had the two wheel housings.

The rear rotor blades and their housing had also dis-

appeared; of the main rotor blades, three of the five had been sheared off.

The two remaining blades appeared to be complete but had been broken more or less in half, the damaged pieces hanging limply down on the port side. Most windows, including those of the escape hatches, were gone, but on the starboard side the windows and escape areas seemed intact.

The underneath of the fuselage was the worst damaged part. Much of the luggage bay had been ripped out, although the debris guard, which keeps seabirds from fouling the rotor blades, was still in place.

Most of the bodies were brought out from the rear of the helicopter in canvas slings and taken to a covered area beneath the crane.

The police said that they would be held in the mortuary of the West Cornwall hospital, at Penzance, pending identification.

Continued on back page, col 1

Debatege papers were crucial, says Carter

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

Former President Jimmy Carter, commenting in Tokyo yesterday on the "Debatege" affair in Washington, said that the debate position papers which may have been passed to Mr Ronald Reagan's election advisers in 1980 "incorporated the very essence" of his campaign. This was the first time that Mr Carter has commented publicly on the scandal.

Mr Reagan had access to all of them, "it was obviously of great benefit" in the crucial debate which helped to sway the election, Mr Carter said, adding that he had "no idea" which papers may have come to the attention of the Reagan campaign.

But Mr Carter said, it was obvious from examining the papers made available by the Reagan Administration to the Justice Department and the press that there was a "long

series of losses from the White House, not just one batch".

The former President, who is in Japan for a six-day private visit, shed no light on who might have passed the papers. The debate papers were known only to a small group of people in the White House; neither his chief of staff nor his campaign manager had access to them, he said.

The debate briefing papers contained details of the issues which Mr Carter's campaign had identified by means of "secret polling" as the most crucial and important, he said, as they describe the mistakes made by both candidates in the campaign, issues which might come up in the debate, responses and possible counter-responses.

Mr Carter said that he was not prejudging what the Reagan camp may have had in hand before the debate.

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Postal prices freeze extended

Britain's profits-rich Post Office has extended its freeze on all main postal prices at least until next April. The move will mean that the 12½p second class post has remained unchanged for two years.

The freeze is part of a drive to increase postal traffic announced yesterday by Mr Ron Dearing, the Post Office chairman. It follows a record year, when postal profits reached £131.6m - the seventh successive year of profitability topped up by £15.6m profits from National Girobank.

The prices freeze, originally imposed only to the end of the year, covers inland and overseas parcels and letters. Its extension to April will cost the Post Office about £12m. First-class post went up 1½p to 16p in April.

Mr Dearing also announced yesterday that special cut-price books of first class stamps - offering savings of nearly 10 per cent - would be on sale from August 10 to September 20. It will contain 10 first class 16p stamps and cost £1.45, a saving of 15p.

"We are sharing with our customers our success in the past year, achieved against the

odd in a period of recession," Mr Dearing added.

The Post Office ranks with British Gas among the more successful of the nationalized industries.

Its success in combating the recession, further increasing productivity, lowering costs, exceeding investment intentions and achieving or beating all financial targets last year will make it a more attractive privatization proposition.

On Monday, the Institute of Economic Affairs, advocating the selling-off of the Post Office, said its profits derived from increasing prices faster than the cost of labour while also reducing the quality of service.

But Mr Dearing, who is also chairman of the Nationalized Industries' chairman group, refused yesterday to be drawn too deeply into the privatization debate. The Post Office was not included in the Government's election manifesto, and he had no view on privatization, he said. He believed it would prove difficult to disassemble the postal delivery service from the counter service.

The Post Office spent a record £124.7m on capital investment last year, against a target of £115m, and plans to increase this to £130m this year as part of a five-year plan to invest £625m in the service.

Last year, the postal business reduced its real unit costs by 2.2 per cent and increased productivity by 4.8 per cent.

Heseltine challenged on putting Trident into Geneva negotiations

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, was challenged in the Commons last night to say whether the Government would respond to a disarmament breakthrough by putting Trident missiles and warheads into the Geneva talks.

Opening a debate on the Defence Estimates, Mr Heseltine went on the offensive, outlining the "agenda for peace" of western disarmament proposals.

Navy to get two frigates

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Government is to order two frigates for the Royal Navy, at a cost of up to £130m each.

In the Commons yesterday, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, announced that he was seeking tenders from shipyards. One frigate will be the first of four replacements for ships lost in the Falklands campaign.

Mr Heseltine said he was

said the United States had proposed a mutual reduction to 5,000 warheads in the Start talks in Geneva, a move which would reduce existing deployment by about a third.

Mr Heseltine then added: "If these negotiations were to lead to a substantial breakthrough, we have made it clear that Britain, in reviewing the future size of its own irreducible minimum deterrent, would not

The minister replied: "If there were in the Start talks to be a substantial breakthrough in the scale of deployment, that would obviously be taken into account by a British Government in deciding its own irreducible minimum deterrent in the new context that would then exist."

But he failed to respond directly to a question from one of his own backbenchers, Mr Julian Amery, who pointed out that no matter what the Soviet Union did, the British deterrent could not be reduced much further.

Earlier, Mr Heseltine had ruled out a policy of mutual freeze.

Government set to shut anti-CND unit

By Nicholas Timmins

The Government unit set up to combat the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) is expected to be wound up shortly.

Final decisions on the future of the Ministry of Defence unit, known as Defence Secretariat 19, have still to be taken. But ministers have abandoned the weekly meetings held during the first six months of this year, used to coordinate the Government's campaign against CND and the unilateralists.

Those meetings were chaired by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and included Home Office and Foreign Office ministers, senior officials, and Mr Bernard Ingham, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's press secretary. Now there are monthly

meetings of officials, and occasional meetings of ministers. Although ministers have not met on the subject since the general election, they are likely to do so before the summer recess to review strategy for the autumn when CND is again planning big demonstrations and the first cruise missiles are due to be deployed in Britain.

Mr Heseltine has said publicly that he does not see a permanent need for a separate unit to combat the unilateralists. Ministers believe that the political steam has gone out of the nuclear issue since the general election, which the Government sees as providing a clear mandate for cruise and Trident, in spite of CND's protest that a majority voted for parties opposed to Trident.

Detectors from Lothian and Borders Police returned to Scotland from Leicestershire police, involved in the year-long hunt for the killer of Sean Maxwell, aged 11, of Cornhill on Tweed, who was abducted last July, also visited Leicestershire murder headquarters.

Officers intend to show the items to the parents of Caroline Hogg, aged 5, who has been missing from her Edinburgh home for the past 11 days.

Edinburgh police said they were "fairly certain" that the body was that of Caroline Hogg but Leicestershire police

said they would not confirm it.

Officers from Northumberland and Staffordshire police, involved in the year-long hunt for the killer of Sean Maxwell, aged 11, of Cornhill on Tweed, who was abducted last July, also visited Leicestershire murder headquarters.

● Derbyshire Police said late yesterday that a man had been charged with the murder of Diana Tower, the teenager from Glossop, whose body was found on June 30, partly hidden under the ruins of Melandra Castle, a Roman fort in a park outside the town.

Sale Room

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Glasgow Museum and Gallery disclosed yesterday that it had tried unsuccessfully to persuade Christie's to withdraw a portrait from last Friday's auction and make a private sale.

The disclosure comes in the wake of a report in *The Times* that Christie's had rejected an offer for a picture from the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, while accepting an offer for another one from the National Portrait Gallery in London.

The picture that Glasgow wanted was a ravishing seventeenth-century "Portrait of Miss May" by John Michael Wright, a Scottish artist. Mr Alastair Auld, the curator, said yesterday that he was surprised when the offer was not accepted.

"I was grateful to Christie's for passing the offer on to the owners. I can see how the tax-free status of private sales to museums militates against the auction houses. Owners are usually better off if they accept private treaty sales."

As in the case of the Smuglevitz which Edinburgh wanted Christie's had said it would put a high protective reserve on the Wright portrait, Mr Auld said. But it found a bidder prepared to top the reserve. The painting had been estimated at £6,000 to £10,000 but sold at £48,500.

Capital transfer and capital gains tax are waived in the case of private treaty sales to national institutions. All three

records for a golf club at £1,870.

The huge prices arise from new collecting interest in historic sporting equipment, notably the United States. Both ball and club were bought by the Old Golf Shop of Cincinnati, Ohio. The ball was a fine William Gourlay feathered gold ball dating from around 1840. The iron dates from around 1820.

Private McAlvey denies murdering Corporal Gregory Morrow aged 20 from Lurgan, Co Armagh, Private Thomas Murphy, aged 19, and Private Michael Burke, aged 20 both from Co Dublin.

It will implement the main recommendations of the committee on restrictions against disabled people set up by Mr Alf Morris, the former Labour Minister for the Disabled to investigate discrimination.

The Bill will make it illegal to discriminate against disabled people on the grounds of their disability in employment, housing, education, the provision of goods and services, insurance, transport, property rights, occupational pension schemes, membership of associations and clubs, and civic duties and functions.

The hearing continues

● The survey has begun and will take two years to complete. It involves the tracing of servicemen, civilians and scientists who took part in the tests between 1952 and 1958 in Australia and the Pacific Islands.

The survey was announced after growing public concern and demands by MPs for compensation to relatives of men who contracted cancer after being exposed to radiation.

The Ministry of Defence is producing a control group of servicemen of similar age.

In the past 10 years there have been five applications to the Ministry of Defence from widows of men who died from cancers after taking part in the nuclear tests. All have been rejected.

Journalists' leaders at the strike-bound *Financial Times* are to meet the management today to discuss a plan to republish the Frankfurt edition of the newspaper within the next 10 days.

The company is said to have secured an agreement with a West German union to produce the normal print run of up to 60,000 copies.

The scheme would mean that work normally performed by members of the National Graphical Association (NGA)

the union on strike over pay, would be covered by the management.

Under usual circumstances, pages of the newspaper are transmitted by facsimile machine from London to Frankfurt and printed there. The suggested procedure would involve members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) working normally and then copy, rather than completed pages, being transmitted to West Germany by the management. Under the plan, the pages would be made up in Frankfurt.

The NUJ leaders will report on their discussions to the chapel [office branch]. The national leadership of the journalists' union is expected to advise its members at the newspaper that they should not do anything to break the strike as long as it is official.

To add to Mr Lawson's troubles, local authorities' present spending, over which he has little direct control, is running about £1,000m over

proportions. In little over a fortnight they spend the lot.

At first the Government claimed that much of that late

burs of spending involved bringing forward some payments from 1983-84 easing

departments' budgets for this year. But figures for the early

months of the new financial year disclosed that spending was still running ahead of plans.

In the first three months of the financial year, central government spending was more

than 9 per cent higher than a year earlier, compared with an increase of 5.5 per cent predicted in the Budget. If continued for the whole of the year, departmental spending alone would add more than £3,000 to £19,700m total planned.

Almost all the overspending identified so far relates to

allowance for shortfalls" knocked £1,200m off the planned spending total.

Second, officials reduced the contingency reserve for unexpected calls on the Exchequer from £2,250m in 1982-83 to £1,500m in 1983-84, claiming that the larger sum was unnecessarily large.

The effect of the measures was to reduce published spending plans by nearly £2,000m but to leave the government virtually no room for manoeuvre if things went wrong.

No sooner had Sir Geoffrey gone down from delivering his Budget, which "gave away" in tax cuts about £2,250m than his bluff was called. Instead of spending £1,700m less than the £14,700m planned for 1982-83, as the Treasury expected,

government departments went

on a spree of unprecedented

overspending, which was determined by demand and are not subject to cash limits, which cover only 40 per cent of total public spending.

Of the £1,000m in extra cash

the Government has asked

Parliament to approve, about

two thirds of which will be

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from the contingency reserve,

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because take-up had been underestimated. Most of the rest involves higher EEC spending, notably to help finance the Community's growing budget mountain.

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To add to Mr Lawson's

Beatles' old school is criticized over poor results and truancy

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Elevating criticism of a Liverpool school attended by former Beatles, George Harrison and Paul McCartney, of two surviving grammar schools in the city, was published yesterday by the school inspectors (HMI), who said the matters needed urgent attention.

The physical environment in Liverpool Institute for Boys, a school that once enjoyed great academic success, was often disappointing, they said. Examination results were disappointing, the behaviour of pupils in some cases were unacceptable with high truancy, and many boys were receiving no instruction at all in music, careers, and various studies.

There are many pupils of all abilities who are failing to reach the levels of attainment that might be expected, the HMI said. "In particular, in religious education and music it is what is provided and the quality of the little work done unacceptable."

Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, written to the city council, who is controlled by the left, saying that he has read the report with concern and finds it troubling.

"Obviously you will want to consider the implications of the report urgently and I would expect you to inform the government of what you have done and are doing to put matters right," he said.

The report underlines the need for the authority to move to grips with the management and rational organization of its county secondary school

provision in the interests of Liverpool's children.

It also suggests that the authority will need to review its arrangements for informing itself about the quality of performance in its schools and for taking appropriate measures to secure improvement in that school.

The school, which has 594

boys in a listed Victorian building, has had a question mark hanging over its future for the past 18 years. Education

ministers have twice rejected plans to make it a comprehensive school and since 1965 it has been run by a succession of head teachers appointed initially in a temporary capacity.

It had been neglected for a long time, the inspectors, who visited the school in February and March this year, said. Roofs were leaking and buildings were dirty and unpainted. Some of the laboratories were antiquated; the outdoor lavatories had no paper, towels or soap, and the indoor lavatories were locked and unused.

Mr Dominic Brady, Liverpool's education committee chairman, said that if the HMI's

Paul McCartney (left) and George Harrison: School under fire.

recommendations are followed, the commission says it was concerned that 40 teachers complained that there had been a strong bias against women in appointments and promotions.

It found that decisions on many of the appointments between January 1976 and January 1979, were taken by the head without consulting the governors, as he should.

The commission recommends that Coventry's director of education should ensure that proper records are kept.

Formal Investigation Report: Sidney Stringer School and Community College, Coventry (publicity section, EOC Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester, £3).

Mental services 'near crisis'

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Services for the mentally ill are approaching crisis point because the rundown of large mental hospitals has not been matched by community alternatives, an inquiry set up by the Richmond Fellowship said yesterday. The inquiry, under the chairmanship of Lord Longford, called for new legislation to place mandatory duties on councils to provide proper facilities for former mental patients.

Professor John Wing of the Institute of Psychiatry, London University and a member of the inquiry team, said the unreasonable level of mental after-care facilities was leading to

people needing help living in cardboard boxes under bridges. Services for them had low priority because their handicaps were invisible.

He suggested that the present arrangements, with health service money gradually being withdrawn over a period of years, should be changed to encourage more local authorities to start new schemes. Hospital inpatient services for the mentally ill were costing £760m a year, compared with about £40m from local authority social services departments. It might be easier for hospitals set up community services themselves.

Obstructive councils criticized

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Several local authorities have firmly refused to remedy wrongs suffered by the public they are supposed to be serving, according to *Your Local Ombudsman*, a report published today by the Commission for Local Administration in England.

Mr Pat Cook, local ombudsman for the North of England, spared mounting pressure for timely enforcement of the commission's findings because some councils refused to respond to its independent and impartial criticism.

Hastings and Wandsworth councils are singled out for criticism of their obstructive attitude. Dr David Yardley, who investigates for the Commission for Local Administration (the local ombudsman's office) in London and the south-east, said: "Their attitude does nothing to enhance their reputation or that of local government in general."

During the past year there has been a 2 per cent increase in complaints against councils,

A firm of columnists is angry over a disclosure that the West Germans have produced thousands of 10p coin blanks for the Royal Mint.

Mr Colin Perry, managing director of the independent Birmingham Mint Ltd, said yesterday that the West German Government had refused to allow British companies to make blanks for Denmark and coins above that value, on the ground that it would be a security risk.

The Mint has raised its complaints with the European Commission.

The Germans allege that the blanks could be stolen and used in vending machines in

their country, but Mr Perry said their claim was ridiculous.

"They will only allow British companies to tender for low-value coins under one mark," he said.

There is a worldwide trade in coin blanks, which are normally stamped with national markings in the country buying them. The Confederation of British Industry said it had recently done a survey in the Birmingham area into unfair trading and found evidence that some European countries, including West Germany, made use of the EEC to increase their exports share in Britain, while setting up barriers to stop British companies selling their products in Europe.

Mr Perry's comment that the Pope's attitude to women and his view of the life of the clergy was "unbelievable", was, he said "dreadful". "I feel extremely guilty about this".

But, he said in a BBC radio interview yesterday, the issues

he had raised should be discussed. "I do not regret at all the idea that one can discuss issues like the nationalism of the Pope or feminism. I deeply regret that in that article they came out in that form."

I think that was very much to do with the enormous pressures I was under at that time at the beginning of May. I was being accused of being a Soviet dupe and at a time of very high strain I reacted very badly and I am extremely sorry about this."

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PARLIAMENT July 19 1983

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

The trade unions might not want his advice on democracy but they certainly need it badly. Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said during questions in the Commons: He regretted that the TUC had declined to participate in consultations on the green paper *Democracy in Trade Unions* but their comments on the proposals for legislation, which he had announced last Tuesday, would be welcome.

Mr Mark Lemon-Boyd (Morecambe and Lonsdale, C): When he meets leaders of the trade unions will he consider making these suggestions: that after the hubbub and the shouting has died down and the proposals have become law, they will find that their leadership is renewed and invigorated because they will find that they are acting on a clear mandate taken by a majority of their members? Secondly, if they seek to call an official strike, it will be at the clear request of a majority of their members?

Mr Tebbit: Democracy would be bad thing in the trade union movement.

Mr Joan Evans (Cynon Valley, Lab): The trade union movement is already democratic. Members determine the constitution, and if he fails to introduce secret ballots there is something they can decide at the annual conference. There is no need for him to dictate to the trade union movement.

Mr Tebbit: I do not think that to suggest that we have a democratic election is a mark of dictatorship. I have quoted many times the words of the chairman of the TUC who said in the past and up to now, that the extreme left have lied, intrigued, manipulated and resorted to intimidation to get their way.

Mr Reginald Prentiss (Daventry, C): The political levy, nobody will thank him as a result of that unless

C: Has he noted the admirable speech of the General Secretary of the Civil and Public Servants Association? Would he welcome it as a sign of the kind of new thinking that could lead it to take a more modern role and escape from the out-dated idea of a trade union movement as a political wing?

Mr Tebbit: I read Mr Graham's speech with great interest. It shows the extent to which new thinking can be engendered among the leaders of the trade unions once democracy begins to haunt the council of the TUC.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): If he wants to introduce more democracy to change the basis of the political contribution, why not introduce measures to make the prior approval of shareholders necessary for contributions to the Conservative Party and not change the system of opting into the trade unions of their members?

Mr Tebbit: Democracy would be bad thing in the trade union movement.

Mr Joan Evans (Cynon Valley, Lab): The trade union movement is already democratic. Members determine the constitution, and if he fails to introduce secret ballots there is something they can decide at the annual conference. There is no need for him to dictate to the trade union movement.

As for political payments by companies, they are covered for more tightly by the Communities Act than the contributions to the trade unions under the 1913 Act.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C): In recognizing the propaganda value to the Conservative Party of Mr Arthur Scargill and his friends, would he not encourage them? Would he, rather, as he seems to be doing, concentrate on generating genuine contact and dialogue between the government of the day and organized labour as represented by the TUC? This must be the long-term benefit of the nation.

Mr Tebbit: It is to the benefit of the country as a whole that the TUC should come back into the scene and desist from merely sulking in their tents pretending that the election results have not happened.

Mr Andrew Mackay (East Berkshire, C): When he meets Mr Len Murray will he explain that the majority of members of this democratically-elected Parliament, the majority of our electors and the majority of trade union members believe that it is in the best interest of good industrial relations that

at some stage announces, he is introducing legislation to make it possible for shareholders to make contract out of the political contribution to the Tory Party.

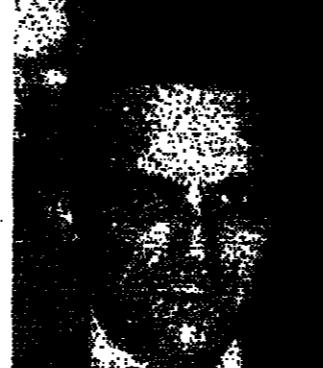
Mr Tebbit: The trade unions may not want my advice on democracy, but it is certain they need it very badly I am sure as he looks at the black votes of a few hundred thousands which will be for or against him when he stands for election at the Labour conference he may well be converted to my view.

Mr Tebbit also said he has written to the TUC inviting them to discuss the steps that the trade unions might take to ensure that their members are fully aware of their statutory rights regarding the political levy and able to exercise them freely. He added that he had informed the TUC that he would welcome their comments on the proposals for legislation on trade union democracy which he announced to the House last Tuesday.

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Lemmox-Boyd: Strikes at request of majority

there are secret ballots before a strike is called?

Mr Tebbit: I suspect that Mr Murray and most of his colleagues would believe it right that there should be ballots before strikes are held. I take the view that it would not be possible to legislate to insist that in every case that was done, but I am sure that the measures I propose would give a strong encouragement to trade unions to conduct such ballots.

Sir Anthony Grant (South-West Cambridgeshire, C): Would he discuss with the TUC the blocking by NUPE of a hospital clarity concert to help those in pain merely on the grounds that Mr Jimmy Tarbuck was a supporter of the Prime Minister in the election?

Mr Tebbit: I understand how strongly he feels, but that is not one of the matters on which I would wish to consult the TUC. All those who are aware of that action by NUPE would regard it as disgraceful.

Mr John Selwyn Gummer, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, criticized the attitude of some contenders for the Labour Party leadership to voting systems.

Many of these contenders (he said) are very insistent on one man one vote when their elections come up, but I had noticed them to be quite so insistent on one man one vote when it came to trade union

leadership.

Mr Joan Evans (Cynon Valley, Lab):

As for political payments by companies, they are covered for more tightly by the Communities Act than the contributions to the trade unions under the 1913 Act.

Mr Eric Varley, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Chesterfield, Lab): The trade unions do not need any lessons from him about democracy and certainly not from the Tory Party which is riddled with privilege and patronage. (Labour speech)

On the political levy, nobody will

thank him as a result of that unless

Britain cannot ignore Russia's frightening level of arms

DEFENCE

Tenders for two new frigates would be invited from the British shipyards yards of Cammell Laird, Swan Hunter and Vosper Thornycroft. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, said it made sense that MPs approve the Defence Estimates for 1983.

He also announced that, in addition to the Services' Youth Training Scheme, which would provide one year's training for 5,200 unemployed youngsters, there would be a parallel scheme in Ministry of Defence civil establishments to provide training for a further 2,000 youngsters. The new scheme was intended to begin in the autumn.

Earlier, when opening the debate, Mr Heseltine, said the subject of defence had become a matter of profound public interest and concern. At no time had mankind consumed such massive resources in the purchase of armaments and in the financing of military strength.

We cannot close our minds (he said) to the confrontations, tensions and opposing ideologies which actually exist. We cannot ignore the power of nuclear weapons.

Mr Heseltine said that the major threat to Britain was the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact.

Whatever one's interpretation of their motives the indisputable facts are that the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact are more powerful today than they have ever been and in every field of defence.

Those who were most concerned about the Russians as a deeply Conservative people who felt threatened by an aggressive and alien western culture, maintained massive forces to defend the Russian homeland.

He had no doubt that these feelings were part of the cultural inheritance of the leaders in the Kremlin, but equally he was sure that they could not be given the benefit of the doubt.

They had shown that their intentions were not only defensive. They had shown that they were prepared to sacrifice the economic well-being of their people by maintaining a level of military force which went far beyond the requirements of self-defence. They had time and again most recently in Afghanistan used military force to subject a sovereign nation to their will.

There were those who defined the process of deterrence in the pejorative language of an increasingly uncontrollable arms race.

Nobody, regardless of party, could escape the pressure within every country and every alliance to pay for a nuclear status symbol that nobody would dare to use in any circumstances. Further spending cuts would bear more and more heavily on the defence budget.

Of course (he said) our people wanted peace. They would support a reduction in the offensive and conventional armaments which exist in the world today. But only on terms that are compatible with the peace they have enjoyed for nearly 40 years and not on terms that might actually destabilize the peace itself.

Mr John Silkin, Chief Opposition spokesman on defence and disarmament (Lewisham Deptford, Lab) moved as an official Opposition amendment: "This House believes that the plans outlined in the Statement on Defence Estimates 1983 do not provide the United Kingdom with a viable defence against aggression; regrets the Government's failure to take any initiative to stop the escalation of the nuclear arms race and, as a first step, to support a nuclear freeze."

There were implications beyond defence. Britain's industry and technological base was profoundly influenced by this budget which, by its very scale, must involve a social responsibility too.

Defence expenditure sustained well over a million jobs in the services, their civilian support and in the defence industries.

Spending this year on research would be more than £300m and on development it would be £1,600m. Together they accounted for rather more than 10 per cent of the total defence budget.

In 1979 the Nato Alliance had given the Soviet Union the clearest warning that if they did not withdraw their intermediate range missiles then in 1983 Nato would

have to take a new look at defence in the interests of the country and the world.

Mr Julian Critchley (Aldershot, C):

It was important that the Prime Minister or the Foreign Secretary should go to Moscow sooner or later because the lines of communication must be kept open.

Mr Kenneth Maginnis (Fermanagh and South Tyrone, UUP), a former officer in the Ulster Defence Regiment, in a maiden speech said that it was not the forces, but successive governments which had let them down in the past 13 to 14 years and which had bowed the knee to terrorism.

A small increase in the number of helicopters deployed would make a great difference. He had personally experienced the difficulty of getting a helicopter and having to send his troops across roads and countryside with every chance of driving across land mines.

Parliament today

COMMONS (2.30): Conclusion of debate on defence estimates. Lords (2.30): Debates on Press Council report on Sulcliffe case; on the enforcement powers of the revenue departments; and on human rights.

Unions badly in need of advice on democracy

COMMONS

The trade unions might not want his advice on democracy but they certainly need it badly. Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said during questions in the Commons: He regretted that the TUC had declined to participate in consultations on the green paper *Democracy in Trade Unions* but their comments on the proposals for legislation, which he had announced last Tuesday, would be welcome.

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ladies out of jobs and more librarians out of jobs?

What is going to happen after the cutbacks being discussed in Cabinet on Thursday?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Foot is fully aware that this is the time of year when public expenditure surveys for the following year are bound to start. They start in the normal way.

Decisions on the following year are normally made in the autumn and for the years after that in the public expenditure White Paper in January or later, sometimes as late as the budget. That is normal procedure.

We have published the total expenditure plans for this year and next and we shall expect to adhere to them.

Stock Exchange issue may reach House

If proposals are made by the Stock Exchange Council to settle the action taken by the Office of Fair Trading in the Restrictive Practices Court, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry is prepared to consider them but they would eventually come before Parliament, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions in the Commons.

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP), asked for an assurance that there was no intention to interfere with the Office of Fair Trading's impending court action in the Restrictive Practices Court against the Stock Exchange.

Does she agree with Mr Patrick Jenkins, Secretary of State for the Environment, that the cuts will lead to a "large measure of redundancies"? Those are the words he used. Will the redundancies include more teachers out of jobs, more dinner

home helps out of jobs, more cleaners

and the like?

The Association of Chief Police Officers shared the Government's concern about the publication of the memoirs of Mr Ronald Grey, former Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, Lord Elton, Under-Secretary of State for Home Office, said at question time.

The Government had discussed the issue with the association. It raised a number of complex problems which required further study, he said.

The association are giving their attention to this (he added) and will keep in touch with our officials.

Lady Sharples (C) said extreme distress had been caused to the families of the victims concerned

Police chiefs concerned about Ripper articles

HOUSE OF LORDS

because of the many errors made by Mr Grey and the West Yorkshire police.

Lord Mishcon, for the Opposition:

Because of the anxiety which has been caused, would the minister expedite the consultations taking place in order that some definite information may be made available to the media as to see if there is not a repetition of the terrible incident?

Lord Elton: I endorse Lady Sharples' view of the distress caused to those families involved. I can assure the House that the expedition will be followed that is consistent with thoroughness and a proper result.

In answer to a further question, he said: The Government welcome the way in which the Press Council strengthened the guidelines after the Sulcliffe case

but the House of Commons

should be given a free hand to do what it thinks best.

Mr Justice Lloyd said he had

no objection to the House of Com

mmons doing what it thinks best.

The provision contained in Order 62, rule 28A of the Rules of the Supreme Court, that a successful litigant in person who had suffered pecuniary loss could recover for work done by himself up to two thirds of the appropriate rate, and disbursements which were allowed in full provided that if incurred by a solicitor, they had actually been incurred by the litigant in person.

There was no room for a notional disbursement and the plaintiff could not escape that by claiming only two thirds of counsel's fees.

Under rule 28A (3), where a litigant in person had part of the work claimed during time when he was treated as if it had been done by a solicitor, and then allowed up to two thirds of the appropriate rate, and disbursements which were allowed in full provided that if incurred by a solicitor, they had actually been incurred by the litigant in person.

Mr Justice Lloyd said the plaintiff had

claimed £4,474 for work which he had

taken her 214 hours, but the master had

only allowed her £725, to cover

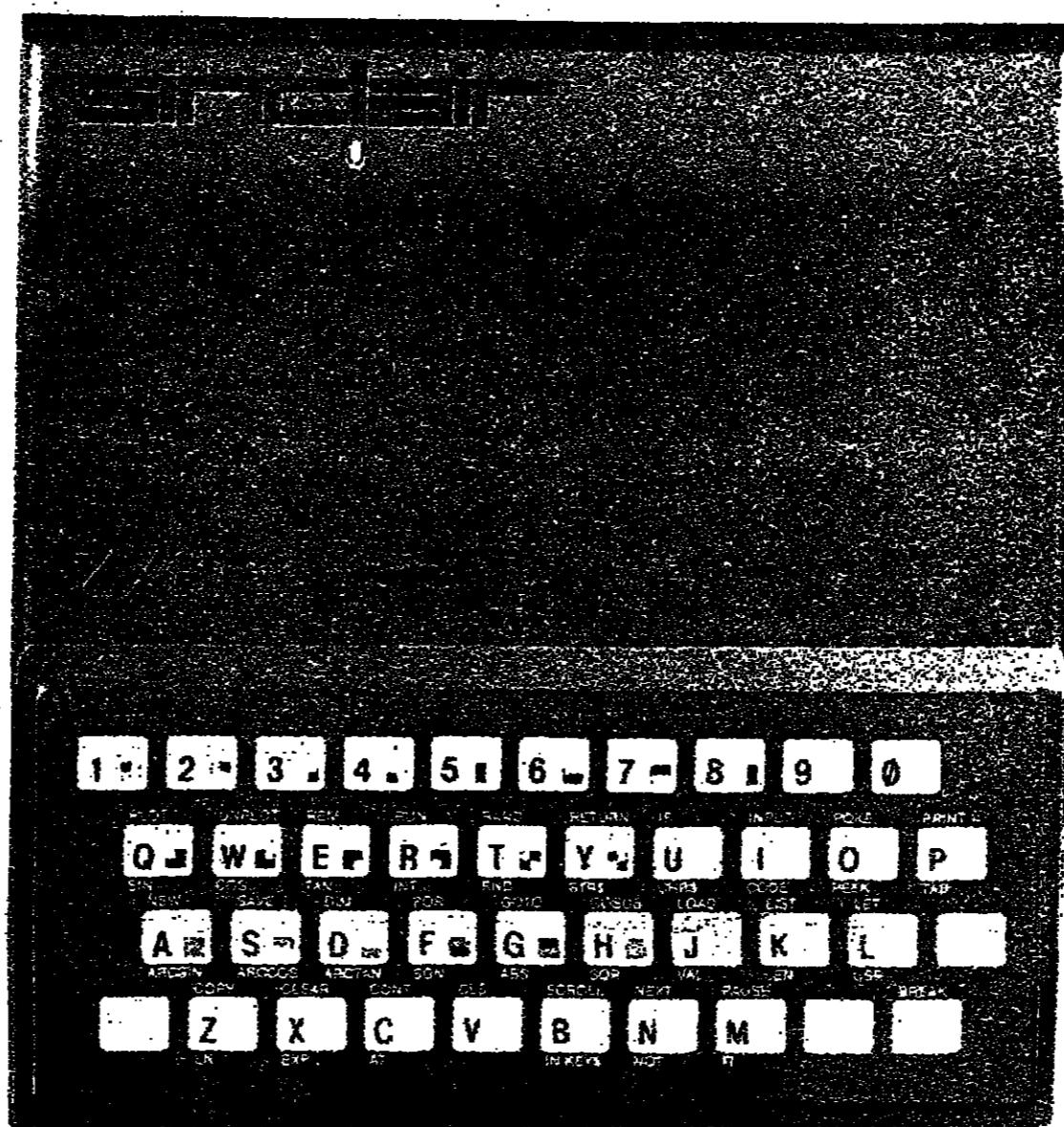
26 hours, of which 43 were allowed

as working time and charged at £15 an hour. The plaintiff had not made

out her objections in respect of

these figures and, in the

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Any colour as long as it's black.

Once in a generation or so, a product appears which transcends itself.

A Model T Ford, for example.

The Model T was just a small, cheap car. But for millions of Americans, the flivver meant affordable freedom, a rise in living standards, fun, the American way of life.

And to the world, it was a demonstration of the benefits of mass-production.

The Sinclair ZX computer has a similar status. It's small, cheap, and (as it happens) black. For millions of people in Britain it represents fun, a firmer grip on the way the world works, an opportunity to join in what is certain to be the British way of life.

But its differences from the Model T are also instructive. There is art in its making, but even more in its design. It's advanced, clever, the product of a small team, not of a giant manufacturing machine.

In fact, its manufacture has been subcontracted.

Sinclair ZX computers, and the 60-person innovative company which develops them, are as surely the models for the next 20 years in Britain as the Model T was for America.

We must rely on our brains for survival. We must stay light on our feet, quick to adapt, develop, improve. (Three different ZX models have appeared, in three consecutive years.) The

key to stability is agility.

It may sound strenuous, and in the next few years it's bound to be so. But when we get it right as a nation, our progress could be almost effortless. The ZX computer concept was so right that within three years, the British public has snapped up a million of them. Britain now has more computers per head than any other country.

Which in itself shows that, given a chance, we take to the future like ducks to water.

sinclair

Sinclair Research Ltd, Stanhope Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3PS. Tel. 0276 685311

Howe proposes tough farm spending cuts to save bankrupt EEC

From Ian Murray
Brussels

Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday spelled out Britain's rescue plan for the bankrupt EEC to other foreign ministers meeting in Brussels. The plan forces cuts in agricultural expenditure and provides a "comprehensive safety net" which would mean that never again would Britain have to pay an unfair share of the cost of running a profligate Community.

According to diplomats, the speech, at a special Council of Ministers meeting called to plan the future financing of the Community, had a "considerable impact". It will form the basis of Britain's negotiating position in the months to come for reforming the EEC.

It has made it perfectly clear to other member states that Britain will only consider any increase in the Community budget when it is perfectly satisfied the EEC is being run efficiently and fairly.

To make sure it is efficient Britain will be seeking radical reform of the common agricultural policy. To make sure it is fair it will be insisting on a new mechanism which would regulate budget payments according to the relative wealth of the member states.

The British Government intends issuing detailed papers on both of these subjects before the end of the month, but Sir Geoffrey yesterday told the Council the broad outlines of what is to be suggested.

The first element in farm spending reform would be an upper limit on the rate of growth of spending on the common agricultural policy. This would seek to limit CAP spending as a fixed proportion of the rate of growth of the Community's own resources. This, Sir Geoffrey argued, should be enshrined in Comm-



Sir Geoffrey: A speech of considerable impact

unity law, ratified by national parliaments.

There would need to be an agreement on the upper limit of money available for agriculture within the budget and measures taken to make sure this is respected. In truly exceptional circumstances extra money could be made available, but generally there had to be a complete overhaul of the different agricultural regimes, truly prudent pricing and tough controls introduced to stop wasteful surpluses.

"These measures are complementary, not alternatives," Sir Geoffrey said. "We need them all."

He underlined the need for action by pointing out that CAP spending had grown five and a half times in the past decade and was 35 per cent up on last year alone.

The Commission is already thinking much along the lines described by Sir Geoffrey. Last weekend, it agreed on the need to draw up a strategy to cut CAP spending by 20 per cent. Officials are now working on the details of the scheme which will seek to impose tough quota levels on surplus products to stop overproduction.

The Commission proposes imposing firm quotas for cereals, which would mean that there was no money available to buy in crops grown in excess of these thresholds. In the dairy sector the idea is to impose a surtax on farmers of 75 per cent for all milk produced in excess of 1981 levels.

The new payments system for budget contributions which Britain is suggesting is meant to end forever the recurring and damaging argument over how much money the EEC can demand from each country. At the same time, since it means some countries will have to pay more and receive less than at present the argument threatens to be long and difficult.

Britain wants the Community to agree on a "safety net" which would put a limit on the size of net contributions a country could be asked to pay. It believes this is necessary because it would be impossible to balance the books without such a device.

Sir Geoffrey pointed out that the regional fund would need twice the size of the total EEC budget if Britain were to receive from it payments equal to the £450m rebate it had been promised this year.

He also showed that the Commission's idea of varying the level of value-added tax budget payments according to a series of wealth criteria would only reduce Britain's net contribution by a quarter.

Britain wants the Community, therefore, to agree that there would be an aggregate upper limit on the net burden which the more prosperous states would be expected to bear of the total Community budget. This would be expressed as a small percentage of the gross domestic product of the member states.

Gemayel hopeful on pullout

Begin puts off visit to Washington

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

For undisclosed "personal reasons" Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, yesterday telephoned President Reagan to postpone his visit to the White House scheduled for next week. This prompted widespread speculation about the motives for the postponement.

The Commission is already thinking much along the lines described by Sir Geoffrey. Last weekend, it agreed on the need to draw up a strategy to cut CAP spending by 20 per cent. Officials are now working on the details of the scheme which will seek to impose tough quota levels on surplus products to stop overproduction.

On July 20, 1974, Turkish forces landed in northern Cyprus. In this first of three articles, EDWARD MORTIMER, reports from Nicosia on the intractable problems that ensued for the two communities on the island.

Hours before the telephone call a leading article in *Davar*, the morning paper of the main Labour opposition, urged postponement of the visit. "It would be odd to hear Begin talking in the United States at a time when he stints his explanations of Israel's political security and economic situation from his home at home," the paper said.

Earlier this month the Prime Minister's spokesman denied an Israeli newspaper story suggesting that the trip would be called off. Quoting unnamed sources, the *Jerusalem Post* report cited Israeli unwillingness to submit to a clash with President Reagan over Israel's planned redeployment in Lebanon as the main motive.

Despite the denials of ill health, yesterday's postponement is certain to reawaken discussion about the Prime Minister's poor physical condition.

The foreigner who wishes to see both halves of the island must enter from the south. The Turks will allow him to cross from south to north but the Greek Cypriot authorities, internationally recognized as the Government of Cyprus, refuse to countenance entry to the territory of the republic through ports or airports which they do not control.

The territory of the republic is not quite the same as "the island". The latter also includes the two British sovereign base areas (SBAs) of Akrotiri and Dhekelia. These have never been part of the republic, because Britain retained sovereignty over them when Cyprus became independent in 1960. But Cyprus claims

that Britain owes a backlog of £250m compensation for the use of the bases, and this claim will be urged again by President Spyros Kyprianou when he meets Mrs Thatcher in London next week.

There is no visible frontier between the SBAs and the rest of the island, except where the Dhekelia base abuts on the Turkish zone. Four thousand Cypriots of both communities work on the bases, and roughly the same number of British personnel are stationed there. Greek Cypriots move in and out of the SBAs almost without noticing, and though from time to time they call for the bases to remove the issue does not arouse remotely the same passion as the Turkish occupation of the north.

Turkish Cypriots, by contrast, can leave the Turkish zone only with a permit from the authorities of the "Turkish federated state of Cyprus", established in 1975. They can get such permits for work in the Dhekelia SBA, but not - except in rare cases, usually at the invitation of a foreign embassy or cultural institution - to visit the Greek zone. Similarly the Greeks are systematically refused entry to the Turkish zone, a very sore point since many of them - 200,000 the Cyprus

Most Sikhs are against self-rule, survey shows

Delhi (AFP) - A majority of Sikhs, both in India and abroad, are opposed to a separate Sikh homeland and want to remain part of India, according to a sample survey released in Delhi yesterday.

The survey, conducted by the National Integration Council, also found that most Sikhs have full confidence in the leadership of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and believed that by remaining within India they would prosper.

Of the Sikhs in India covered by the survey, 87.68 per cent disapproved of the demand for a separate Sikh nation, 7.66 per cent were neutral, and 4.66 per cent supported a separate homeland.

Sikh militants are campaigning for greater political autonomy for the rich farming north-western state of Punjab, which borders Pakistan. A hard-core section of the militant Akali Dal party is demanding secession from the Indian union and formation of a separate Sikh homeland Khalistan or "land of the pure".

Mr Reagan will have talks with President Gemayel on Friday.



Explosive disclosure: Dr Ernesto Montgomery, "psychic counsellor" to Vicki Morgan, announcing that she had given him a videotape of sexual acts which she described as "political dynamite" the day before she was murdered.

Ciskei security chief arrested amid coup rumours

From Michael Hornby
Johannesburg

The former security chief in Ciskei, one of South Africa's nominally independent tribal homelands, was arrested yesterday amid rumours that he had been involved in a coup attempt last week against his elder brother, Chief Lepus Sebe, the President of Ciskei.

Mr Takane said all the detainees would "definitely be charged" as soon as the case against them was ready. Investigations were continuing into a shooting attack on the home of Mr B. N. Pitzi, the Foreign Minister. Half a dozen other senior police officers and the son of Ciskei's vice-president are also reported to have been arrested.

General Sebe, who was demoted on Saturday, denies



Outward bound: Mrs Maria Chmykhakov, aged 60, carries her granddaughter Dina as the family of Siberian Pentecostalists who took refuge in the US Moscow Embassy arrived at Frankfurt yesterday on the way to New York.

Greenpeace took photos of Soviet activities

Nome, Alaska (AP, AFP) - Anti-whaling campaigners of the Greenpeace Foundation claim to have photographed illegal Soviet whaling operations during a mission in Siberia which led to the arrest of six Americans and one Canadian. One man was seized from a boat while racing for Alaska.

The Rainbow Warrior, the Greenpeace trawler, reached international waters on Monday after a chase by a Soviet merchant ship and helicopter, a Greenpeace spokesman said. The ship anchored off Nome early yesterday and one injured crew member, suffering from a broken ankle, was taken to hospital.

The ship left seven crew members, including Mr Chris Cook, aged 38, the American director of Greenpeace, in the hands of Soviet authorities.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry confirmed yesterday that there had been an incident in Siberia involving Greenpeace. Mr Frank Tonini, the United States Embassy spokesman, said the Foreign Ministry was looking into it at the American's request.

A United States-Soviet consular convention requires "notification without delay" if authorities in either country arrest nationals of the other.

The Greenpeace members were said to have been arrested at the port of Lorino for illegally landing.

Mr Patrick Moore, the Canadian director of Greenpeace, said in Vancouver that the team wanted to find out if the Russians were using whale meat to feed animals bred for their fur at Lorino. This would contravene international regulations.

Leading article, page 13

Indonesian troops told how to use torture

Indonesian troops in East Timor have been issued with secret manuals permitting the use of torture, according to Amnesty International, the London-based organization.

An 82-page military manual captured from Indonesian forces by the East Timor resistance movement, Fretilin, tells soldiers not to photograph prisoners being stripped naked and tortured with electric shocks. Amnesty is satisfied that the manual is genuine.

The manual is divided into eight sections, seven of which are marked secret, and includes a chapter on interrogation.

Bees threaten invasion

San José (AFP) - An international effort is being made to prevent a horde of African "killer bees" from invading Central America, Mexico and the United States.

Smaller than the European bee, they are much more aggressive and are responsible for killing sheep and cattle. The African bees were imported into Brazil in 1956 to raise honey production.

16 die in mine

Rio de Janeiro (AP) - Sixteen miners were killed and 30 injured in a landslide on Monday at a gold mine in Serra Pelada, 1,850 miles north west of Rio. It occurred as security measures were undertaken after water began seeping into the mine, the Ministry of Mines reported.

High prices

Washington (NYT) - Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, stated that a naval officer had been relieved of his command and civilian officials had been reprimanded for permitting defence contractors to charge excessive prices for spare parts.

Yangtze threat

Peking (Reuters) - A record flood tide on the Yangtze river has reached Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu province in south-east China. Local papers say that if torrential rains continue the area could be completely inundated.

Hunger protest

Stockholm - Swedish prison authorities have expressed concern about the health of a hunger-striker, Miro Baresic, a Croatian nationalist who was jailed for life for the murder of the Yugoslav Ambassador in Stockholm in 1971.

Gulf target

Tokyo (Reuters) - Japan and Iran have agreed to complete by 1989 the petrochemical complex at Bandar Khomeini which was damaged and delayed by the Gulf war, it was announced here yesterday.

Dakota crash

Khartum (Reuters) - A Dakota airliner belonging to the American Chevron oil company crashed outside Khartum but all 24 people on board survived, a company spokesman said.

Muslims' trial

Belgrade (Reuters) - Thirteen Yugoslav Muslim intellectuals have gone on trial in Sarajevo charged with plotting to set up a fundamentalist Islamic state in Yugoslavia.

Naval visit

Kuala Lumpur (AP) - A Royal Navy task force including HMS Invincible will visit the Indian Ocean, the Far East, Australia and New Zealand, starting in September, according to the British High Commission.

Not amused

Stockholm (AP) - A suspected submarine periscope spotted off Sweden's North East coast turned out to be a sewage pipe placed in the water by practical jokers. "It is not very funny," a Defence Ministry spokesman said. Sweden, however, is continuing to search.

American response to arms plan attacked

Geneva (Reuters) - Mr Viktor Karpov, Moscow's chief negotiator at the Strategic Arms Reduction (Start) talks, said yesterday that the United States had not reacted positively to new Soviet proposals lowering the limits on missile numbers.

Asked whether the Soviet Union and the United States had moved closer to an agreement on long-range weapons following the new proposals, Mr Karpov said: "I would not say so."

He declined to give details of Moscow's new initiatives, reported from Washington to

centre on lower missile limits for each side. But when asked if the US reaction to them had been positive he replied: "No."

Mr Karpov was asked whether progress in the talks was tied to progress in parallel US-Soviet negotiations in Geneva on European-based missiles.

He replied: "I would not compare them. There are some talks here and the problems that we are discussing are very important by themselves. So we are trying to do our best."

Reported from Washington to

Law enshrines accepted practice

Polish police allowed to shoot civilians

From Roger Boyce, Warsaw

The right of militiamen and security agents to shoot at civilians, one of the most sensitive areas of Polish history, has been spelt out for the first time in the new police law approved by Parliament last week.

The full text of the measure, which is part of a body of legislation designed to replace martial law, emerged yesterday. The law says: "militia commanders may give the order to shoot if the situation requires - that is, there is no need to wait for instructions from the party leadership."

Firearms may be used to prevent attempts on the lives of a militiaman or security agent, to prevent attack on important state buildings and facilities, against anybody who attacks a

by secret instructions. The law now spells these out, as a warning to Polics in advance of the lifting of martial law.

One of the prime reasons for the unpopularity of the militia during martial law - when at least 15 people were shot in various demonstrations - has been the feeling that the police were acting in an unauthorized way. Theoretically, the definition of police rights should mean that relatives of people wounded in clashes would be able to seek redress through a court of law.

The question of the right to shoot is a crucial one in Poland. In 1956, militiamen shot at workers in Poznan and in 1970 at workers in Gdansk. Both actions led to the ousting of the party leadership.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gay's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SETTLED AT A PRICE

There are many on the Opposition benches who will seek to make political capital out of the Government's decision, confirmed in the House of Commons yesterday by the Prime Minister, to make peace with the Stock Exchange. Conservative governments and the City are natural allies and it always seemed unlikely - if a suitable settlement could be arranged - that Ministers would allow the Stock Exchange to be dragged through a long court case defending itself against allegations that not only is it a monopoly, but it is one which acts against the public interest.

The government has now held out an olive branch and asked the Stock Exchange voluntarily to forego some of its more obviously anti-competitive practices in return for dropping the case. It is, in short, offering an out-of-court settlement. However, the government is to avoid the accusation that it has one law for public sector monopolies which are said to be against the public interest, and another

one for a monopoly operated in and by the City, then it is important that the compromise which is finally struck does represent genuine public advantage and a significant modification of the way in which the Stock Exchange conducts itself.

This may require a considerable amount of statesmanship by the Council of the Stock Exchange. For years now it has been fighting the Office of Fair Trading, spending over £1 million in the process to prepare its defense. Inevitably it is deeply dug in behind its arguments. Now it must abandon its adversarial role in which it was not prepared to yield an inch, and instead propose changes which though they may be painful are none the less overdue.

With these changes will be a matter for negotiation between the parties concerned. But there must surely be substantial movement towards minimum commissions so that brokers have to some extent to compete on price. The stock exchange should also

be more open to outside influences - to foreign investment houses with London offices perhaps - and to British financial institutions such as merchant banks which have to compete on an international stage and are hampered from doing so by the parochial nature of stock exchange membership rules.

At the heart of any healthy financial community lies a healthy stock exchange. London is an international financial centre and must remain so. It is therefore very important for the stock exchange to open its windows to international competition. It must tailor its rules to the needs of international commerce in the closing years of the twentieth century which are changing fast from those which have hitherto conditioned the structure and behaviour of British stockbroking firms. The Stock Exchange may have won its narrow point with the OFT. It must not lose it in the wider world through lack of vision.

SCORCHED EARTH, SOVIET-STYLE

The Greenpeace environmentalists arrested in Siberia while investigating a whaling station have drawn welcome attention to one aspect of a brooding ecological disaster of global proportions. The Soviet ships which pursued *Rainbow Warrior* to prevent filming evidence reaching the outside world were trying to maintain a cover-up of the unprecedented damage done to a sixth of the earth's surface in sixty years of Soviet rule.

This is not the result of any deliberate act of policy, as were the millions of deaths caused by the purges and famines of the Stalin period. On the contrary, protection of the environment is enshrined in the Soviet constitution and scarcely a day passes without a concerned journalist exposing in the official media some criminal abuse of nature; the perpetrators are severely punished. But all those who live in the USSR, from privileged Politburo to imprisoned poachers, are victims of a system which deliberately stifles debate and suppresses undesirable statistics.

To build the first communist state - for the benefit of all humanity - Soviet leaders have given top priority to industrial growth. Prisoners of their own

ideology, they insist that state ownership protects the environment more successfully than systems based on private property. Yet in an extraordinary celebration of gigantomania, vast schemes are all too frequently abandoned only after irreparable damage has been done.

A dam constructed in 1980 across the huge Kara Bogaz gulf to reduce evaporation from the Caspian Sea is now producing a salt desert, threatening agriculture and destroying fish stocks. According to *Pravda*: "now even the birds avoid this dead, white place". The plan to divert water from the great north-flowing rivers of Siberia to replenish the lake and rivers of Central Asia and Kazakhstan could likewise do unimaginable harm to the ecology. Irrigation and hydroelectric schemes on the Volga, Irtysh and other rivers have flooded villages and fertile land. Flora and fauna have suffered, and industrial pollution of the Volga and Caspian have put at risk the Poliburo's caviar supplies. Khrushchev's virgin land schemes resulted in large-scale soil erosion.

Ak Issyk-Kul, the pearl of

Kirghizia, is threatened by untreated effluents and oil leakage from oil tanks, while the world's greatest body of fresh water, Lake Baikal, with over a thousand unique species of flora and fauna, continues to suffer damage from forestry works, despite official claims to the contrary. Lake Ladoga, near Leningrad, has already reached a dangerously high level of pollution. The Sea of Azov now yields about one per cent of the fish harvest of the 1940s.

Factory managers prefer to pay a fine for pollution - or bribe the inspector - rather than underfund their plans. Local party barons organize hunting trips in game reserves while ordinary poachers compensate for empty meat shops. Many incidents are reported in the official media, but any comprehensive indictment of the system circulates only clandestinely. For instance, evidence is suppressed of genetic defects and disease caused by pollution, though infant mortality has increased so much that statistics are no longer published. The Soviet system is indeed unfair to whales. But its chief victims are the peoples of the USSR themselves.

LOCAL BOY MAKES BAD

Councils need all the friends they can muster. From above they are assailed by ministers for whom "constitutional" niceties about the division of power in the state matter much less than the practicalities of high rates and big spending aggregates. And from below there is public indifference and ratemakers' hostility: the citizenry have a regard for council services but a low estimation of the institution that provides them and its costs. In this context the latest report of the Commission for Local Administration in England - to Local Ombudsman - does not make happy reading.

It is not so much the volume or the nature of complaints against councils that occasion disquiet. The number of complaints is a small total when set against the £20 billion annual cost of council provision or the population touched in one way or another by the town and county halls - though the small total could be a reflection of the Local Ombudsman's failure to advertise his presence to the general public. The complaints themselves are often trivial. They concern mainly public housing and planning applications. The municipalities are still, whatever the impact of the right of tenants to purchase their council homes, gigantic landlords who sometimes cannot,

wl not, or simply forget to repair and maintain their stock houses and, at worst, treat their occupants with cold, bureaucratic contempt.

What is worrying is the attitude displayed by certain councils towards the Ombudsman's puny powers to investigate and make reports. Some councils, we are told, not only refuse to co-operate with his inquiries; for years they have ignored repeated efforts to put right wrongs judged to have been done to citizens. The suspicion grows that councillors have lost control of the administrative apparatus beneath them, allowing their officials to strut like municipal Prussians. Little wonder that Mrs Thatcher's government can point to deep public resentment at councils to justify its perilous descent into centralization.

The Local Ombudsman, despite his Nordic origins, has become a system for compromise and conciliation on familiar British lines. It is a system that councils should cherish, for when the public lose confidence in the ability of ombudsman or district auditors to remedy bureaucratic heavy-handedness or councillors' partiality the demands for centralised interference will grow. Action is required on two fronts.

Under the 1974 Local

Government Act which established the Commission for Local Administration citizens may not complain directly to the Ombudsman: grievances have to be processed through a councillor. The provision may originally have been well-intended - to discourage frivolous complaints, to promote local settlements by councillors' mediation. But there is now enough evidence that it actively discourages complaints; councillors themselves are often the object of complaint. The time has come for the government to change the rules and allow direct access by the public to the Ombudsman.

The same Act created as a buffer between the Local Ombudsman and councils a representative body comprising senior people from the counties, districts and cities' associations. This body has proven active and articulate at pointing out where the Ombudsman affronts principles of local autonomy and council independence. But it has been less than forthcoming in pressing councils to accept the Ombudsman's verdict. A serious attempt should be made to impose discipline on those councils which have refused to redress wrongs identified by the Ombudsman. If the councils cannot police themselves then the civil servants and government ministers will.

Under the 1974 Local

access to defence gossip or to an American academic institution that specialised in security and arms control could have learnt what British Members of Parliament were being denied.

But MPs must blame themselves. The reluctance of the majority of Labour MPs to dig deeper into defence matters except to find ammunition to oppose it, is matched by the strong military instinct of many Conservatives who enjoy the cloak-and-dagger approach to defence. As a result, the Select Committee on Defence often succumbed to Ministers who have contrived to divert it from too much probing.

Mr Denis Healey is good for a bit, while we one aspect of the Chevalier programme. But, when answering questions in the House of Commons, I was instructed to rest on the tip-dating of Polaris" which should not be confused with "a new generation" of nuclear weapons.

When I moved up into the Cabinet, decisions on nuclear policy vanished altogether from view. Any visit to Washington with normal

television to comment on it.

But the wiser matter is this. It should have been possible for the main opposition party to achieve an element of bipartisanship with the Government & the day on nuclear policy. Similarly, given that nuclear policy involves large moral and political issues and substantial public expenditure (although not for cruise), there much be said for a thoroughly informed public opinion. Instead, successive governments have chosen to proceed in secrecy. This has excited Parliament and even to Ministers and has gone far beyond what prudent security requires.

As Minister of State for Defence, I was initially concerned for a short while with one aspect of the Chevalier programme. But, when answering questions in the House of Commons, I was instructed to rest on the tip-dating of Polaris" which should not be confused with "a new generation" of nuclear weapons.

When I moved up into the Cabinet, decisions on nuclear policy vanished altogether from view. Any visit to Washington with normal

No real signs of economic up-turn

From Mr Alan Edwards

Sir, Mr Congdon's analogy in your column on July 14 on the current alleged turn-around of the UK economy is premature.

He correctly states that demand has increased significantly over the past 12 months and is happy to acknowledge that an enormous increase in consumer borrowing has brought this about. He does not go on to question whether this level of borrowing is sustainable.

Net saving has fallen to a record low, while personal debt is at a record high compared with incomes. It is clear that further new borrowing cannot sustain the growth in demand we have seen over the last 12 months, and that some other factor, not yet apparent, must emerge if the recovery is to be sustained.

On output, Mr Congdon correctly states that the May industrial output index is four point up on November. The index, however, is extremely volatile and the latest published CSO industrial output statistics have been revised back to 1979.

In the third and fourth quarters of 1982, the monthly figures bobbed around an average of 102.4. The first quarter average in 1983 was 103 - hardly a major increase, even if provisional April and May figures have edged up slightly. And this includes oil output. The index of manufacturing output has languished at around 89 since early 1981.

The central problem for the economy remains the sterling exchange rate which has not responded appropriately to differential inflation rates since 1979.

Sterling remains grossly overvalued by around 20 to 30 per cent. This is why imports have responded so much better than domestic output to higher levels of demand in 1983. (In late 1982, demand was largely satisfied by running down stocks.)

There will not, and cannot be, sustained recovery for the UK economy until this fundamental currency misalignment has been corrected. Medium-term financial strategy or not.

Yours etc,

ALAN EDWARDS,
82 Perry Street,
Billerica,
Essex.
July 14.

From Professor Wynne Godley

Sir, Mr Tim Congdon states (feature, July 14) that the Government has "adhered to a medium term financial strategy, that inflation has been reduced as a result and that there is evidence of a sustained recovery". He claims this proves wrong the 364 economists who signed a letter in early 1981 stating

that demand deflation would not bring inflation permanently under control and thereby induce an automatic recovery in output and employment.

Although the Government has not in fact adhered to its medium-term financial strategy as set out in the March 1980 Budget (money supply has grown by around 50 per cent since 1980 as against the 19-33 per cent target range fixed at that time), it is true that demand has been deflated and inflation has come down. But there is no evidence that inflation has been brought permanently under control, let alone that a substantial or sustained improvement in output and employment is under way. No one knows what would happen to inflation if sustained recovery were to occur and unemployment reduced significantly, but there is a fair chance that it would accelerate again.

Such growth as is now occurring, induced by the removal of H.P. controls last July as well as higher mortgage lending and stockbuilding, is not yet fast enough to stop unemployment rising although it already wiped out our large current account surplus. An expansion based only on personal borrowing and stockbuilding is inherently unsustainable, and unless our international competitiveness improves dramatically it will fairly soon peter out.

Nothing has happened since 1981 to cause me to change the view I expressed then, nor I suspect would the other 363 economists wish to alter their statement.

Yours faithfully,

WYNNE GODLEY, Director,
Department of Applied Economics,
University of Cambridge,
Sidgwick Avenue,
Cambridge.

July 18.

From Mr W. R. Eyres

Sir, Might one suggest that Tim Congdon (feature, July 14) has mistaken the half-time whistle for the end of the match?

Far from there having been a spontaneous recovery in personal borrowing, this was actively encouraged by the ending of hire-purchase controls last August and by the budget proposal to increase mortgage subsidies. The money supply has been allowed to breach its target by a wide margin, so it is hardly possible to argue that the so-called medium term financial strategy is intact, unless it was simply "stop-go" in other clothing.

It is thus too early to cheer from the side-lines. The test is not over; it has yet to come.

Yours truly,

W. R. EYRES,
26 Grove Terrace, NW5.

July 14.

Forensic evidence

From Sir David Napley

Sir, Mr Mayhew, in answer to a parliamentary question put by Dr Summerskill on May 9, said:

It is already the practice for the results of examinations by Home Office forensic science laboratories to be made available both to the prosecution and the defence. In addition, arrangements exist whereby the services of the laboratories are made available via the police for the examination of specimens on behalf of the defence. The results of such examinations are also made known to both sides.

The last sentence of this answer is incorrect. The results of such examinations are not made available to both sides. The remainder of the answer may give a wholly misleading impression.

The practice of the Government laboratories, about which many of us have protested over many years without avail, and I write as the Director and Past President of the British Academy of Forensic Sciences, although not on their behalf, is that if a laboratory has expressed an opinion on specimens submitted by the police, none of its experts is permitted to assist the defence, either generally or by examining further specimens or re-examining the original ones.

This body has proven active and articulate at pointing out where the Ombudsman affronts principles of local autonomy and council independence. But it has been less than forthcoming in pressing councils to accept the Ombudsman's verdict. A serious attempt should be made to impose discipline on those councils which have refused to redress wrongs identified by the Ombudsman. If the councils cannot police themselves then the civil servants and government ministers will.

The same Act created as a buffer between the Local Ombudsman and councils a representative body comprising senior people from the counties, districts and cities' associations.

This body has proven active and articulate at pointing out where the Ombudsman affronts principles of local autonomy and council independence. But it has been less than forthcoming in pressing councils to accept the Ombudsman's verdict. A serious attempt should be made to impose discipline on those councils which have refused to redress wrongs identified by the Ombudsman. If the councils cannot police themselves then the civil servants and government ministers will.

Although the laboratories must exist for the furtherance of justice they are subject to an inflexible rule which, in the vast bulk of cases, frustrates their use by the defence on the odd and indefensible principle that one expert in a laboratory ought never to be seen expressing a different opinion, on a scientific matter, from an expert in the same or a different government scientific laboratory.

Moreover, the one fact about which the parliamentary answer is open and explicit is that the defence, if it is permitted to submit a specimen for examination, is obliged to do it through the police, thus wholly defeating the basic principle of English law that it is never incumbent upon the defence to disclose its case to the prosecution.

The one comfort that can be drawn from this parliamentary answer is that if those who must prepare it for the Minister to deliver it fit to phrase it in the way they did, at least, it shows that they are justly ashamed of recognising the true position.

Yours truly,

DAVID NAPLEY,
Kingsley, Napley & Co.,
117-115 Long Acre, WC2.

July 13.

and style, which relates to appearance and fashion. Once we have done so, Mr Phillips will no longer dare to talk about designing a "go-faster stripe" and we shall benefit by having products that are better designed and better looking, be they cars or clothes.

Yours sincerely,

R. H. RANSFORD,
Tuscany,
Levenson Road,
Great Waldingfield,
Suffolk.

July 5.

Function of design

From Mr R. H. Ransford

Sir, In "Design: the failure is in marketing" (industrial notebook, July 5) David Phillips quotes as an engineering rule of thumb that if it looks right it probably is right. The engineer's maxim, however, is that if it is right it looks right - with the corollary that if it looks right it may be right.

It appears to me more than time to make a clear distinction between design, which relates to function,

and style, which relates to appearance and fashion.

Once we have done so, Mr Phillips will no longer dare to talk about designing a "go-faster stripe" and we shall benefit by having products that are better designed and better looking, be they cars or clothes.

Yours sincerely,

R. H. RANSFORD,
Tuscany,
Levenson Road,
Great Waldingfield,
Suffolk.

July 5.

pean plants of endangered species such as *Cypripedium calceolus* and *Orchis militaris* (Dr Kenneth Marsh, June 23) is, in my view, premature. Seed of these and of other endangered species from British plants is perfectly viable. We now possess the technology to grow plants from seed and to reintroduce them to the wild if necessary (see *New Science* (1983) vol 198: 540).

A programme with this in view and with the cooperation of the Nature Conservancy Council is currently being undertaken by scientists at Kew. We thereby hope to preserve the integrity of the wild British stocks of rare orchids and to considerably improve their chances of survival on a more healthy basis than at present.

The work of various county

naturalist trusts and other wildlife groups in protecting the orchids that remain will then be seen as the vital first step in the rehabilitation process now becoming available.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price	Price Change	Div Yield	P/E
Hommechanics (Up Ord 50%)	12.08	-0.02		
Curv. Computer Ord 10%	12.08	-0.02		
Curv. Corp 10%	14.05	-0.02		
Curv. Enzakri MIV (62%)	100	-0.02		
Framlington Corp 10% Ord (400)	712	-0.02		
Gent (S) 10% Ord	113	-0.02		
Gilbert House Inv 10% Ord (7.5%)	22.1	-0.02		
Godiva Wares 10% Ord (17.5%)	71.1	-0.02		
Julian's Hide & Skin (Ord 1%)	33.0	-0.02		
K.L.T. Group 5% Ord (1.5%)	110	-0.02		
MMT Consulting 5% Ord (50%)	73	-0.02		
Mutual Ind 10% Ord (9%)	107.5	-0.02		
Renaults 5% Ord (9%)	167.2	-0.02		
Texas L Petroleum Corp Stock	22.1	-0.02		
Tunstall Ind 10% Ord (2%)	16.5	-0.02		
Unilever 10% Ord (1%)	140.7	-0.02		
Issue price in parentheses. * Unlisted Securities. ** by tender.				

High	Low	Stock	Int. Gross Price	Chg'ge	Yield	P/E
BRITISH FUNDS						
SHORTE						
1004 86% Exch 13.4% 1983 101	10.386	10.000				
1012 91% Exch 16.6% 1983 100	10.000	9.821				
1016 Fund 5% 1982-84 88	5.614	5.684				
1017 Fund 5% 1982-84 88	5.614	5.684				
1018 95% Exch 14.6% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1019 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1020 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1021 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1022 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1023 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1024 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1025 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1026 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1027 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1028 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
1029 95% Exch 13.4% 1984 100	11.160	10.126				
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Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

Index 699.7 up 11.2
T Gilts 80.32 unchanged
All Shares 441.11 up 4.48
(lastteam estimate)
Targets: 21,101
astastream USM Leaders
Index 95.34 up 0.62
New York Dow Jones Average (latest) 1197.52 up 7.62
Hongkong Hang Seng Index
088.38 up 16.67
Amsterdam Index 142.7 up 2
Frankfurt Commerzbank
Index 960.60 down 0.8
Sydney AO Index 844.0 up 1.2
Brussels General Index
28.34 down 0.27
Paris CAC Index 125.0 down 1.2
Zurich S K A Index 285.9 down 0.6
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 8886.56 down 18.41

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5185 down 20pts
Index 84.5 down 0.1
DM 3.94 down 0.01
Fr 11.84 down 0.025
Yen 365.75 down 0.50
Dollar
Index 126.2 down 0.1
DM 2.5940

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5200
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 20.576273
SDR £0.697183

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 9%
Finance house base rate 10%
Discount market loans week fixed 9% - 9½%
3 month interbank 10% - 9½%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 - 10½%
3 month DM 5½ - 5½%
3 month Fr 14½ - 14%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 10.5
Fed funds 9%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period June 8 to July 5, 1983 inclusive: 9.878 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce); am \$424.25; pm \$423.75 close \$423.50

New York: close \$423.75
Kruggerrand* (per coin) \$436
\$437.50 (\$287.50-228.50)
Sovereigns* (new) \$99.50-\$100.50 (\$65.50-26.25)
*excludes VAT.

TODAY

Interims: Bootham Engineers, Mount Charlotte Investments, London and Lomond Investment Trust, Union Discount Company of London, Weber Holdings.
Finals: Bespak, Centreway Trust, Crosby House Group, G M Firth, Hampson Industries, Marfing Industries, Steinberg Group.
Economic statistics: Construction New Orders (May), Indices of basic rates of wages (June), Indices of average earnings (May). Industrial and commercial companies capital account and net borrowing requirements (first quarter).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Bonlex Holdings, Hyatt Carlton Tower, Cadogan Place, SW1 (noon).
B. Elliott Group, Glaziers Hall, 9 Montagu Close, London Bridge SE1 (11.45).
English & International Trust, 117 Old Broad Street, EC2 (2.30).
Holt Lloyd International, Lloyds House, Alderley Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire (2.30).
International Paint, 9 Henrietta Place, W1 (noon).
MK Electric Group, Chartered Accountants Hall, Moorgate Place, EC2 (noon).
Millets Leisure Shops, Abercorn Rooms, Liverpool Street EC2 (noon).
Sunrise Clothes, Berkley Road, Harrogate, Leeds (2.00).
Tumble Scott Holdings, Ironmongers' Hall, Barbican, EC2 (noon).

NOTEBOOK

Eurotherm International, the makers of electronic furnace control equipment, have turned in a disappointing half year figures with profits down from £2.3m to £1.8m. Heavy investment has not been matched by better demand.
Mid Guestcast, the lawn mowers and foundries group, shows profits rose from £27,000 to £24.2m in the half year to the end of last April.

Page 18

US delegation takes tough line at IDA Tokyo meeting

World Bank fears Americans will leave loan fund short of cash

By Michael Prest

World Bank officials are years from mid-1984, the seventh period of the association's existence and called IDA 7. Country members of the bank contribute pro rata to its resources, so this could mean nominal IDA funds falling from \$12,000m for IDA 6 to \$9,000m.

At a meeting in London this week, Mr Munir Bejenek, World Bank vice-president for external relations, said: "If that is the way it's going to come out at the end, the management of the bank would consider it a disaster."

The IDA believes that a minimum replenishment of \$16,000m is needed, and had been pushing for \$20,000m. But it appears that the American delegation at the Tokyo meeting has shown no sign of relenting.

The meeting is the fourth to which the association lends are deteriorating.

Deputies to IDA governors, from the 33 member countries, are meeting in Tokyo to debate the problem. The talks, which began and finish tomorrow, could be the last chance before the full gathering of the bank and the International Monetary Fund in September.

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INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Eurotherm gets its sums wrong

International
• 30.4.83
Net £1.65m (£2.25m)
Rings 3.78p (4.84p)
218.3m (£17.1m)
Dividend 1p (1p)
e 298p, down 22p

erm International as-
socically that there is
ential business prob-
yesterday's dis-
half-year results
the investment pro-
seeming to run out of
arnings.

the electronic control
company appears to
horribly wrong its
about when the econ-
ld turn up. Six months
is ready to underline its
stock image with a
estment programme in
reas like computer-
sign. Even with no big
ments in the economy
nt to have increased by
0 per cent against
s 10 per cent. The
nt in staff, new prod-
has not been matched
ased demand. Quite
n increased expendi-
established companies,
pumped more than
into new businesses in

UK £ BASED INVESTOR									Percentage rise over 12 months	
US\$	E	DM	YEN	Sfr	FF	DFI	CS			
Return on open cash	3.1	10.5	6.8	8.1	10.5	8.0	4.5			
Return on open bonds £ adj	0.5	12.3	8.4	11.9	7.4	8.9	8.3	7.7		
Return on hedged bonds	7.6	12.3	13.3	14.1	11.8	6.7	12.6	13.5		

US \$ BASED INVESTOR									Percentage rise over 12 months	
US\$	E	DM	YEN	Sfr	FF	DFI	CS			
Return on open cash	10.3	18.5	14.3	16.1	13.8	18.2	13.7	12.0		
Return on open bonds \$ adj	7.8	20.4	17.3	20.0	15.2	16.8	16.1	15.4		
Return on hedged bonds	7.8	12.5	14.3	12.0	8.8	12.8	13.7			

Sources: Lazard Frères' Currency & Bond Market Strategy

year, a rights issue, which has cut interest charges substantially even though long term debt totals £2.7m.

The company is still talking to various parties about acquisitions, notably in America, but with little optimism about an early deal.

Second half profits should exceed the £2.3m made in last year's second half. Yesterday's figures and the company's thoughts about the second half make nonsense of brokers' forecasts which had ranged as high as £3m for the current year.

Laurie Milbank

good news is that it is not being lost, just buying less. In this six months the top ten it took 85 per cent of what was bought in the same of last year. Orders are out 50 per cent ahead of go.

ever, the real improvement in terms of profits will not through until next year to benefit in the current half. Against that, there is 4m in the bank from last

The idea is summarized in the table. What matters to the investor

investor is not just how the instrument — cash, bonds, hedged bonded, and gold are covered in the new monthly review — but the currency.

This extract from a larger matrix which is the heart of the exercise demonstrates clearly how the British-based investor would receive the highest return on yen-bonded bonds, while the US-based dollar investor would do best in gilt.

But underpinning these calculations is the argument that most western economies and Japan have reached the bottom of the interest rate and inflation cycle. The increase over the last 10 months or so in monetary growth — perhaps up by 10 per cent or so in monetary growth — perhaps up by 10 per cent in real terms — accompanied by rising government deficit in some countries and a likely acceleration of the velocity of circulation at this stage in the recovery will indicate an upturn in inflation next year.

The somewhat gloomy conclusion, therefore, is that real interest rates will indeed fall — but because inflation will go up.

How this affects the investor

naturally depends in part on the Government's policy, and the review assumes that it will remain resolute against a rise in public spending to prevent a longer term resurgence of inflation. The good news is that the next inflationary peak will not be as high as the last.

encouraging than at any time in the last four years.

This progress is reflected below the line in an extraordinary credit — £1.7m of profit on disposal of land — where for so many years there have been debts for redundancy and revaluation.

In addition, the central heating division goes from strength to strength with demand particularly strong in the replacement market. Despite a small downturn in lawn mower sales as a result of the wet weather to April, home and garden equipment is experiencing a marginal improvement in profits.

Birnid Qualcast is perhaps better known as a company which makes lawn mowers than as a foundries group. However, it is the foundries side that has continued to contribute to profit in recent years.

In the year to last October, the founders lost £5.5m, most of it in the second half — and latest six-month results from the company, which show pre-tax profits from £427,000 to £2m, include foundry losses estimated at just under £2m.

Despite the size of this drain on resources, the group plainly feels that finally it has the structure of the foundry business right in the absence of a repeat of the sudden downturn in demand in the second half of last year. Birnid is looking for progress towards break-even in the coming months.

Over two years the workforce in that part of the group has more than halved to 4,000 and the number of production lines has come down to 11. With demand picking up a little, particularly from the car industry, the position is looking more

encouraging than at any time in the last four years.

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Birnid has turned the corner and its share price — up 5p to 44.5p yesterday — is likely to stand the month ahead.

One of the world's more intellectually testing company reorganizations should come to fruition in Canada today. Inspiration Resources will issue in Toronto a new class of special common stock with warrants which although quoted in Canadian dollars will mirror in every way the American stock launched in New York last month.

The issue will complete the effective subordination of Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting to Inspiration. More important, Minoro will subscribe half of the C\$200m issue, thereby retaining its 60 per cent holding in the reorganized company. The special shares are expected to open at a discount to the present \$17½ for the common. Inspiration will cut its gearing to 50 per cent and could go into profit next year. But British investors might wonder what it all means for Minoro.

COMMODITIES

NIDOM METAL EXCHANGE		ALUMINIUM		SWISS FRANC		SUGAR		COCA-COLA	
Official prices:		Cash	1006.5-1007.5	1034-1035.5	Sept	4763	Canal nos. up 12.2 per cent. ave. price.	165.00-165.50	97.5%
Official turnover figures:		1/2 months	107.5	107.5	Oct	—	97.60p-98.00p	165.75-166.25	Guaranteed Notes Due August 1, 1992
Official prices per ton		1/2 months	107.5	107.5	Nov	—	97.65p-98.05p	166.00-166.50	
Minerals & Co. Ltd. report		Stainless	107.5	107.5	Dec	—	97.70p-98.10p	166.25-166.75	
		Stainless	107.5	107.5	Jan	—	97.75p-98.15p	166.50-167.00	
		Cash	318.0-318.5	320.0-320.5	Feb	5067	98.40p-98.80p	166.75-167.25	
		1/2 months	320.0-320.5	322.0-322.5	Mar	—	98.45p-98.85p	167.00-167.50	
		Stainless	320.0-320.5	322.0-322.5	Apr	5068	98.50p-98.90p	167.25-167.75	
					May	—	98.55p-98.95p	167.50-168.00	
					June	5069	98.60p-99.00p	167.75-168.25	
					July	5070	98.65p-99.05p	168.00-168.50	
					Aug	5071	98.70p-99.10p	168.25-168.75	
					Sept	5072	98.75p-99.15p	168.50-169.00	
					Oct	5073	98.80p-99.20p	168.75-169.25	
					Nov	5074	98.85p-99.25p	169.00-169.50	
					Dec	5075	98.90p-99.30p	169.25-169.75	
					Jan	5076	98.95p-99.35p	169.50-169.75	
					Feb	5077	99.00p-99.40p	169.75-170.00	
					March	5078	99.05p-99.45p	169.75-170.00	
					April	5079	99.10p-99.50p	169.75-170.00	
					May	5080	99.15p-99.55p	169.75-170.00	
					June	5081	99.20p-99.60p	169.75-170.00	
					July	5082	99.25p-99.65p	169.75-170.00	
					Aug	5083	99.30p-99.70p	169.75-170.00	
					Sept	5084	99.35p-99.75p	169.75-170.00	
					Oct	5085	99.40p-99.80p	169.75-170.00	
					Nov	5086	99.45p-99.85p	169.75-170.00	
					Dec	5087	99.50p-99.90p	169.75-170.00	
					Jan	5088	99.55p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					Feb	5089	99.60p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					March	5090	99.65p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					April	5091	99.70p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					May	5092	99.75p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					June	5093	99.80p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					July	5094	99.85p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					Aug	5095	99.90p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					Sept	5096	99.95p-99.95p	169.75-170.00	
					Oct	5097	99.95p-		

ATHLETICS: CRAM AND WILLIAMSON SITUATION 'UNTENABLE'

By Pat Butcher

The large and impressive entry for the 103rd AAA championships at Crystal Palace this weekend will be overshadowed if the world championship selectors' prevarication forces Steve Cram and Graham Williamson into a confrontation with Sebastian Coe in a race that is not even part of those championships. It is still unclear why Williamson and Cram were originally chosen to accompany Steve Ovett in the Helsinki 1500 metres, and then dropped. But it is abundantly clear that no one concerned with the selection changes, under whatever pressure, can emerge with any credit or dignity from the farce.

Williamson, and now Cram after his impressive win in Nice two nights ago, have a better case for 1,500 metres selection than Coe, who has already been selected for 800 metres in Helsinki. But the move suggested to Coe and Williamson by Andy Norman, the England team manager and selector, at



Williamson: 'proved point'

yesterday's AAA press conference was that the pair should now run in the Robinson's Ready Drink Mile, an invitation race on Saturday evening at Crystal Palace, set up for Coe, Steve Scott and Eamonn Coghlan by their common agent, the International Management Group, and sold to United States television.

This is the only advice or information on what Cram and Williamson have to do to

ensure their selection that they are likely to get from official sources this week. Nigel Cooper, secretary of the British Amateur Athletic Board, admitted yesterday that there would be no communication with the athletes on selection.

George Gandy, Williamson's coach, finds the situation untenable. "In the interests of Cram and Williamson, a clear statement should be made," he said yesterday. "What are the selectors now looking for?"

Cram was on his way back from Nice, but his father sympathised with Williamson, who he thought had already "proved his point".

Evidently a race with all three athletes still in contention for 1,500 metres would go a long way toward relieving the selectors of the problem that they have put off until the last members of the team are chosen after the AAA meeting next Sunday evening. Gandy's reaction to such a prospect was: "If Cram is willing to run the mile, then Williamson would probably run, too."

HOCKEY

England call in Francis

After England's triumph in a home countries tournament last week in Cardiff the selectors wasted no time in announcing the squad of 16 for the European championships in Amsterdam from August 18-28. Sydney Fruks writes. England's final exercise before the Amsterdam event will be an unofficial match against Kenya at Bisham Abbey on July 31.

Only one change has been made: Neil Francis, of Guildford, replaces Charanji Bhaura in the attack. Francis is an experienced international player and was a member of England's World Cup squad in Bombay last year. In omitting the six Southgate players because of their failure to attend training weeks the selectors have again been fair to those who presented themselves for regular training.

England squad: P Barber (SloUGH), K S Bhaura (MOUNTAIN), R S Chander (Surrey), D Fernando (GUILDFORD), B N Francis (GUILDFORD), B Green (Buckingham), N Hossain (Wales), Captain, J. H. Price (Surrey), D. J. Ross (Surrey), N. M. Richards (GLOUCESTERSHIRE), J. Potter (HounT), M. Smith (Surrey), I. Shaver (SOUTHAMPTON), Taylor (East GRINSTEAD).

Connors enters

Jimmy Connors of the United States has entered the international tennis championship to be held in Montreal from August 6 to 14. The tournament now features the four top-ranked players in the world, as John McEnroe, Ivan Lendl, and Yannick Noah of France, seeded fourth, have also entered.

ROWING

British team for Vichy

The British junior team for the world championships in Vichy from August 4 to 7 was announced yesterday after the British rowing championships last weekend, J. Raithwaite writes.

Only six of the eight men's events have received British nominations and two of the six women's disciplines have provided individual experience for many British oarsmen and scullers who have gone on to win Olympic medals.

The standard is exceptionally high, the East Germans again dominating, and a crew must excel to stand any chance of a final place.

TEAM: Captain: R Grant (bow), D March (St. GEORGE'S, Weymouth), R McNeil (Cardiff RC), A. Morris (Weston-super-Mare), D. Parker (Oxford), G. Quinn (Wales), A. Wickett (Dorset), J. H. Price (Surrey), T. Stannard (Bath), M. T. Williams (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), J. Grundy, A. Donaldson (St Edwards), D. Estes, J. West (Hampshire), M. Norton, S. Webb (Stroud), King's, Canterbury, J. Wilson (cox, bow).

WOMEN: Captain: S Clark (Abingdon RC), Bow: S Warner (Cardiff), K. Thomas (Weymouth), Ladies RC, T. Stretch (City of Cambridge RC), A. Jones (Strouds College RC), A. Barnett (Worcester), S. Clegg (Cardiff), S. Jackson (Worcester), S. May (Wellingborough), S. Parsons (Northants), S. Sonnen (stroke), A. North (cox, bow), Roberts (Oldham), Smith (Whitewash).

IN BRIEF

Clerc back to form

Chestnut Hill, Mass. (AP) — José Luis Clerc, of Argentina, collected a \$34,000 prize when he won the Boston Grand Prix tennis tournament here yesterday by beating Jimmy Arias of the United States 6-3, 6-1 in the final. The victory broke a run of failure for Clerc, ranked tenth in the world. He had failed to get beyond the second round of his nine previous tournaments.

RUGBY LEAGUE: The British amateur squad who have won their four opening games on tour in New Zealand and amassed 137 points, move to the top score, Andy Rippon to full back against the Northern Districts at Rotorua today.

TEAM: Captain: R. Grant (bow), D. March (St. GEORGE'S, Weymouth), R. McNeil (Cardiff RC), A. Morris (Weston-super-Mare), D. Parker (Oxford), G. Quinn (Wales), A. Wickett (Dorset), J. H. Price (Surrey), T. Stannard (Bath), M. T. Williams (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), J. Grundy, A. Donaldson (St Edwards), D. Estes, J. West (Hampshire), M. Norton, S. Webb (Stroud), King's, Canterbury, J. Wilson (cox, bow).

SWIMMING: Roger Eady, former Welsh national swimming coach, has been appointed the first paid executive director of the International Squash Rackets Federation.

CONTR'S decision about the two players' futures will be final and is not expected to end the controversy over the signings.

The Italian press speculated yesterday that the committee is going to reverse the Italian football federation's decision to exclude the two Brazilians because their contracts were not in order.

The Austrian international defender, Bruno Pezzey, has joined Bradford from Eintracht Frankfurt for a fee of £50,000.

Devonshire are overrunning at about £350,000. Wrexham are prepared to spend £10,000 to sign the Liverpool midfield player, Robbie Savage.

England have been drawn against Iceland in the preliminary round of the European Youth Championship. Northern Ireland will play the Republic of Ireland and Scotland will face Wales.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

(10.30-7.30 unless stated)

NatWest Trophy

Chelmsford v Middlesex

SWANSEA Glouceston v Hampshire

OTRANTO Lancashire v Gloucestershire

THE OVAL SURRY v Nottinghamshire

HOME Sussex v Northamptonshire

Tour Match

WORCESTER Worcester v New Zealand

Minor Counties Championship:

peckish Suffolk v Cambridgeshire

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Army Interclub championships at Aldershot, Hampshire

PARADE Hill, Dunstable, Bedfordshire

GOLF: WPGA British championship (at Denham)

PRUDENTIAL County cup (at Eastbourne)

group two (at Cromer); group four (at Cromer); group seven (at Malvern); Women's group one (at Eastbourne); group two (at Bournemouth); group five (at Exmouth); group six (at Worthing); group seven (at Poole); Yacht Cup (at Wimborne).

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Mercantile Fund Managers Ltd, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

Prudential Fund Managers Ltd, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

Statewide Widows Fund, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Assurance Co Ltd, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Life Assurance Co Ltd, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Mutual Fund, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Pensions Fund, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Portfolios, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Retirement Fund, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Trust Fund, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

1983 Prudential Unit Trust Fund, 100 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0HN

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1983 Prudential Unit

Pentagon to hold big military manoeuvres in Honduras

From Philip Taubman
(NYT) Washington

The Reagan Administration, as a warning to Cuba and Nicaragua, is planning two big military exercises within the next four weeks in Central America and the Caribbean. Officials said that the exercises, which will involve ground, air and naval forces, would be officially described as routine. They said privately, however, that they had recently been ordered by the White House, and were intended to signal that the United States has the means to stop the shipment of military supplies from Cuba to Nicaragua.

President Reagan has not ruled out the possibility of establishing a military quarantine around Nicaragua at a later date, according to senior officials.

They added that the President and his advisers regarded a quarantine as a last resort if other forms of diplomatic and military pressure failed to persuade the Cubans to stop the shipments.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Secretary of Defence, has said that a blockade of Nicaragua would require a major commitment of United States forces, and defence Department officials, many of whom oppose such a move, have argued that it would drain American military resources from other parts.

In a speech on Central America on Monday, President Reagan said that more Cuban

and Soviet supplies had arrived in Nicaragua and this could not be allowed to continue. The Administration has accused Nicaragua of transferring the supplies to guerrillas in El Salvador.

Officials said that the land exercises, which will take place in Honduras, would be similar to joint American-Honduran manoeuvres last autumn, in which United States Air Force aircraft carried Honduran troops to the border with Nicaragua.

Cancún on talks agenda

From John Carlin, Mexico City

In a prompt response to the Contadora group's summit meeting in Cancún on Sunday, the foreign ministers of four Central American countries were to meet for talks yesterday in Guatemala.

The Guatemalan government announced on Monday that the foreign ministers of Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica would meet their Guatemalan counterpart to discuss the latest developments in Central America.

Kissinger selection draws fire

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

Old liberal and conservative foes of Dr Henry Kissinger yesterday assailed his appointment as head of a presidential commission on Central America.

The former Secretary of State, whose views on the region coincide broadly with President Reagan's, quietly disappeared from public view as the controversy flared.

The bipartisan commission has been given a mandate to make recommendations on United States policy in Central America by December 1, but there is little likelihood that any notable shift in direction will be mooted.

Dr Kissinger opposes any cut in United States military aid to El Salvador and would favour a military presence on the Honduras-Nicaraguan border if present American aid to rebels in Nicaragua were to prove untenable.

The flurry caused by Dr Kissinger's appointment came as no surprise, given the extensive controversy he provoked as National Security Adviser to President Nixon and as Secretary of State under Mr Nixon and President Ford.

Mr Richard Vigerie, publisher of *The Conservative Digest* and a leading right-wing Washington activist, said Dr Kissinger "was the nation's No 1 foreign policy official when US foreign policy virtually collapsed, leading to the loss of Angola, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia".

Mr Howard Baker, the Senate Republican leader, was heavy in his praise of Dr Kissinger but Mr Clement Zablocki, the Democratic chairman of the House foreign affairs committee, said the appointment would not help Mr Reagan regain credibility with the American people.

Britain has very bad day at bridge

From Keith Stanley, Wiesbaden

Britain had a very bad day in the open bridge championship, losing by 5-15 to a good Israel side and then being outplayed by an excellent Norwegian team minus 3-20. However, morale has not suffered and at half time in round five Britain lead Finland by 32 IMPs.

The highlight of the other matches in round four was the clash between Italy and Spain, two of the leading teams at this early stage. Italy won 17-3 to move into second place behind France.

Round four: Hungary 6, Romania 14; Netherlands 11, Finland 9;

Berlinguer seeking new set-up in Italy

From Peter Nichols
Rome

President Pertini of Italy is due to begin formal consultations with political leaders today about whom to invite to form a new government.

The general opinion is that his first choice will have to be Signor Bettino Craxi, Secretary of the Socialist Party. The Christian Democrats, who remain the largest party despite their losses at the general election last month, have not publicly objected to the prospect of a Socialist prime minister.

At their national council on Monday, Signor Craxi de Mita, the Christian Democratic Party Secretary, did not mention any name. He stated that he would want the formation of a five-party coalition, with the Communists kept distinctly in opposition.

At the same time Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist Party secretary, told his Central Committee that he would oppose the formation of another such coalition in which his opinion had proved inadequate to meet the country's difficulties.

Mystery illness

Madrid (AP) — Four senior Spanish Army officers, including a general, have died recently of a mysterious "respiratory infection" which has been compared to Legionnaire's Disease, the press reported.

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worried about the Britons

who had been brought in to try

and stem smuggling. He was

anxious that they should come to no harm.

Sir James, who had just

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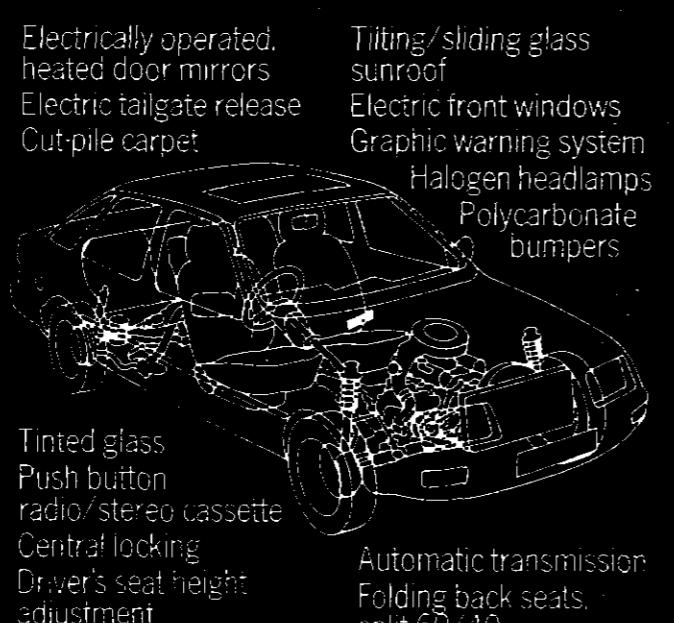
Mr Savimbi, he said, was

You can't keep a good car down

1st

**FAMILY SALOON
FORD SIERRA**

Current
Sierra prices*
from £4974
Car illustrated:
Sierra 2.3 Ghia
at £8910 with:-



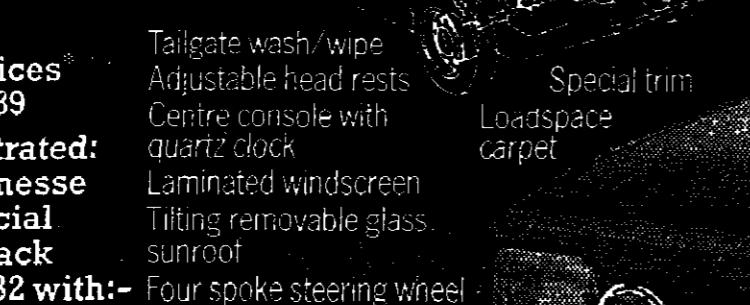
Car shown is fitted with optional
rear wash/wipe at extra cost.

Radio/stereo cassette
Body stripe
Locking fuel tank cap

1st

**SMALL HATCHBACK
FORD FIESTA**

Current
Fiesta prices*
from £3389
Car illustrated:
Fiesta Finesse
with Special
Option Pack
from £4232 with:-



Yet again, Ford are top of the charts.

Sierra is the best selling car in Britain this year.¹ Escort, Capri and Granada are the best selling cars in their classes. And more Fiestas have been sold since 1977 than any other hatchback.

To cap it all, this June, the Escort, Sierra and Fiesta were the three best selling cars in Britain. And the Capri and Granada were both top of their class. Again.

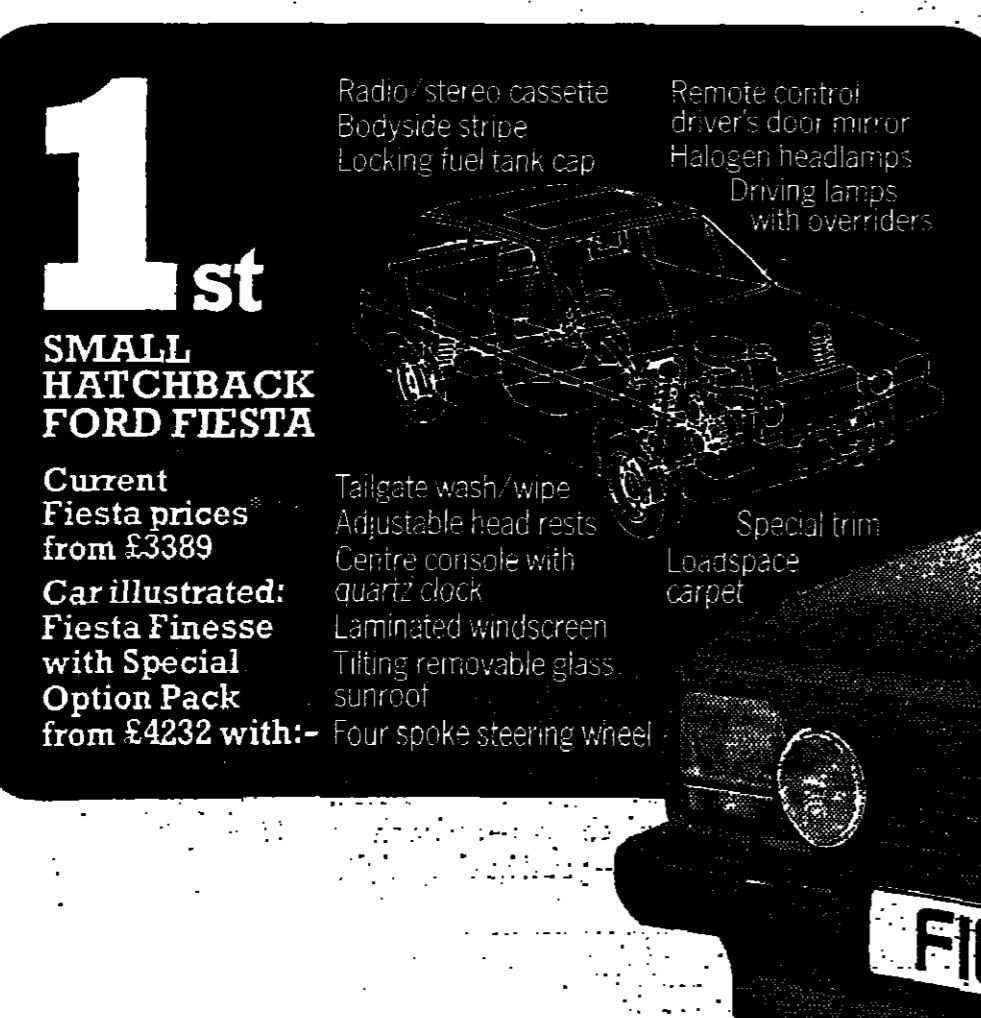
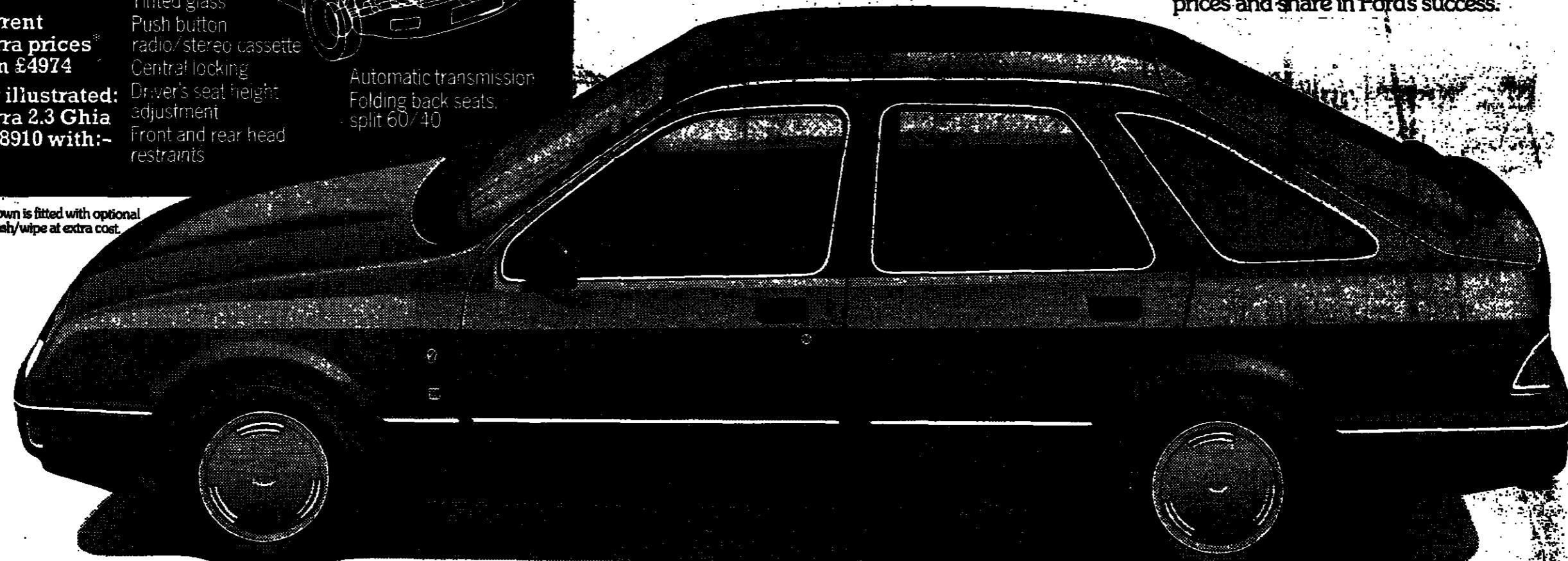
All of which is good news for Ford. But how does our success affect you, our customers?

Well, it has had one pleasant side effect. It has enabled us to hold our prices steady.

We've actually had only one small price increase since November 1981, in spite of continuing increases in our costs.

And in the meantime, we've added a great deal of standard equipment to our cars. But you can't keep a good car down forever. By mid-August our prices* will have to go up.

So, if you're planning to buy a new 'A' registered Ford, see your Ford dealer now. You still have a chance to get one at today's prices and share in Ford's success.



1st

**EXECUTIVE
CLASS
FORD GRANADA**

Current
Granada prices*
from £7115
Car illustrated:
Granada 2.8 Ghia
at £10390 with:-

1st

MEDIUM
HATCHBACK
FORD ESCORT

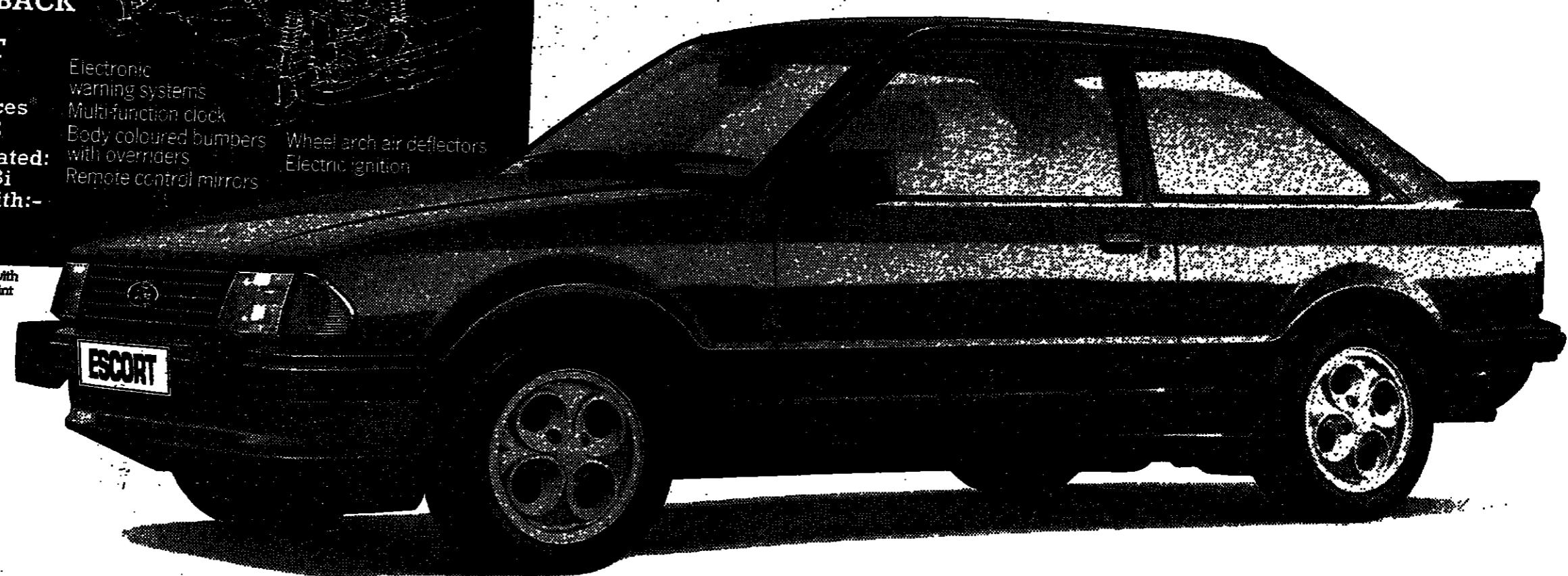
Current
Escort prices*
from £4974
Car illustrated:
Escort 1.3 Ghia
at £6223 with:-

1st
MEDIUM HATCHBACK
FORD ESCORT

Current Escort prices* from £4062
Car illustrated: Escort XR3i at £6278 with:-

- Low profile tyres
- 5-speed gearbox
- 1.6 fuel injected engine
- Self-adjusting tappets
- Front and rear spoilers
- Tailgate wash/wipe
- Alloy road wheels
- Halogen headlamps
- Electronic warning systems
- Multi-function clock
- Body coloured bumpers with overriders
- Wheel arch air deflectors
- Electric ignition
- Remote control mirrors

Car shown is fitted with optional head restraint pads at extra cost.



1st
SPORTS COUPE
FORD CAPRI

Current Capri prices* from £4995
Car illustrated: Capri 2.8 Injection at £8306 with:-

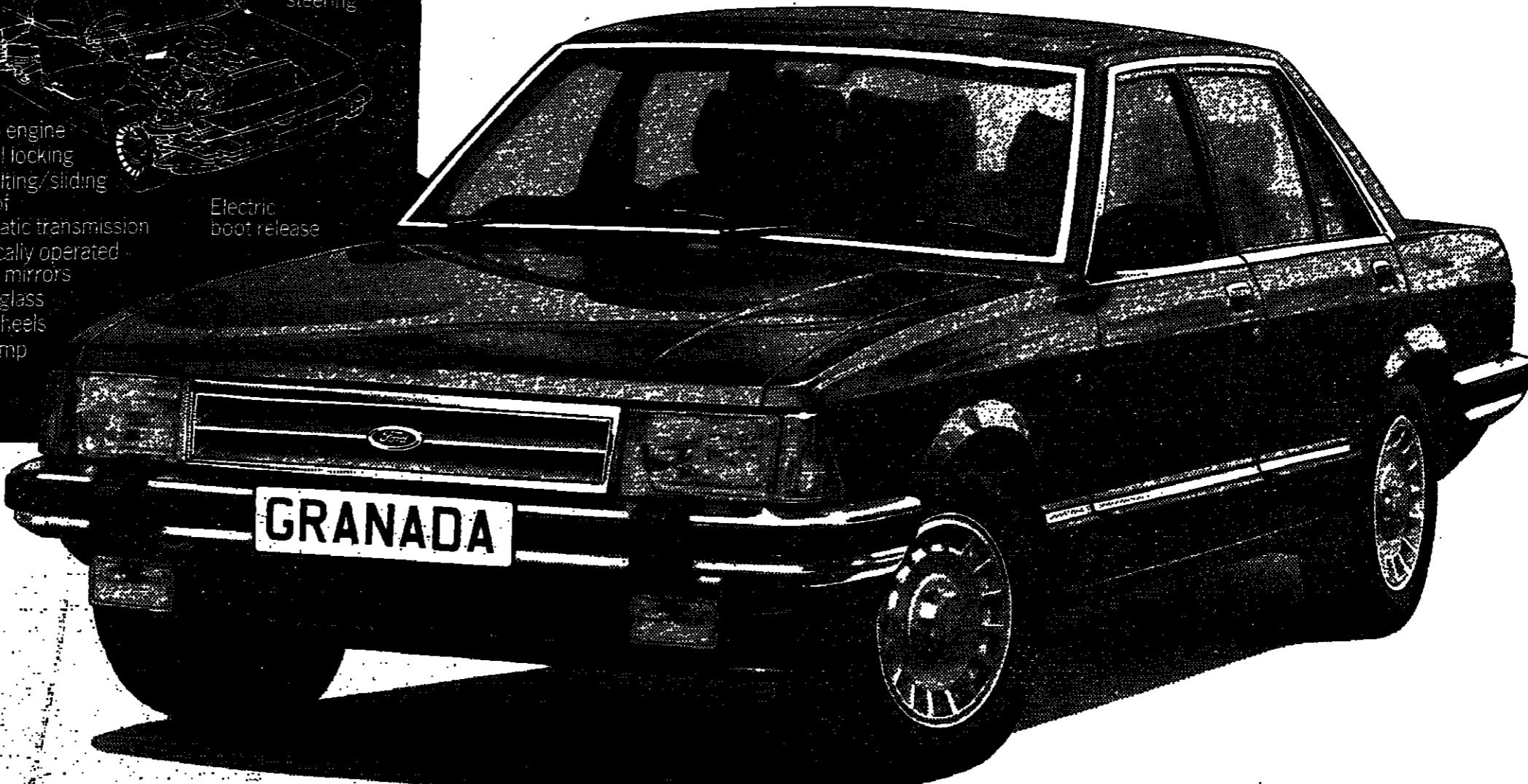
- 7" alloy wheels with ultra low profile tyres
- 5-speed gearbox
- Sports steering wheel
- Tilting/sliding sunroof
- 6 dial instrumentation
- Brake failure warning system
- Tinted glass
- Rear seat belts
- 2.8 V6 fuel injected engine
- Front and rear spoilers
- Split rear seat
- Lowered suspension
- Stereo radio/cassette with electric aerial
- Four halogen headlamps

1st
EXECUTIVE CLASS
FORD GRANADA

Current Granada prices* from £7135
Car illustrated: Granada 2.8 Ghia at £10399 with:-

Car shown is fitted with optional front fog lamps at extra cost.

- 2.8 V6 engine
- Central locking
- Steel tilting/sliding sunroof
- Automatic transmission
- Electrically operated heated mirrors
- Tinted glass
- Alloy wheels
- Headlamp wash
- Electric windows
- Power assisted steering
- Electric boot release



SPECTRUM

Peter and John each have three children and like Mozart Jean and Jean both hate thunder and love fudge. These are identical twins, separated at birth, and they fascinate scientists with the insights they provide into heredity and environment. Alan Hamilton and Richard Evans hear the tales of five reunited pairs.

moreover...
Miles Kington

The two of us . . .

When one of his students at the University of Minnesota brought Professor Thomas Bouchard a newspaper cutting, he was intrigued. It was the story of a pair of twins who had been reunited after 30 years of separation, and the coincidences were remarkable. They were extraordinarily alike and they both married not only first wives with the same name, but second wives with the same name.

It was a rare find, and Professor Bouchard invited the pair to the university in Minneapolis for an exhaustive series of medical and psychological tests. He realized that siblings of identical biological origin but entirely different upbringings could provide fruitful research into the evergreen argument over whether heredity or environment determines character.

The publicity surrounding that first case in 1979 brought many more pairs of reunited twins to the professor's door; he has now conducted detailed studies of 36 pairs of fraternal twins and 14 pairs of identical twins, many

of them supplied by an English social worker, John Stroud.

Stroud, an official of Hertfordshire County Council social services department, has reunited 26 pairs of twins separated at birth or soon after, usually as a result of adoption of one or both of the pair. In almost every case the twins have been delighted to rediscover each other.

But after separation lasting as much as 50 years, are twins still as alike as peas in a pod? Even twins raised together can be far from identical in looks, character and temperament. But when *The Times* recently brought together 10 of the pairs reunited by Stroud, their stories were full of parallels and coincidences.

They are a unique group, their circumstances largely the product of the early years of adoption in the 1920s and 1930s when the separation of orphaned, unwanted or illegitimate twins was not uncommon. Nowadays social workers would separate twins only in the most exceptional cases, so the stories of the Stroud twins are a rare record.

When Jean and Jean were reunited in 1981, after 51 years, they found they had been living only 25 miles apart in Essex, one in Harlow and the other in Great Bardfield.

They also found that they had married within six months of each other, a Robert and a Roland, had their first children within three days, and now have three grandsons and one granddaughter each. Both discovered that they love rich tea, sweets and fudge and hate thunderstorms, insects and spiders.

Jean and Jean were born in Edmonton, north London. Jean One, the elder by half an hour, remained at home while Jean Two, who had been christened Yvonne, was adopted and given the name by her new parents in Enfield.

Jean Two: "I have no idea why I was adopted. Father was a Belgian, and a bit of a mystery character."

Jean One, laughing: "Perhaps nobody wanted me; they probably thought I was the runt one."

Jean One: "I knew I had been born a

twins, because an old aunt used to tell me that there had been two of us."

Jean Two: "I found the adoption papers carrying my original name. I traced myself in the register of births at Somerset House, and I was amazed to find another entry immediately above mine, with the same surname and the same date of birth. I managed to get that birth certificate, and it proved I just had to be a twin."

Together, they laugh a lot, and joke about who will have the more grandchildren.

Dorrie Breeden knew for as long as she can remember that she had a twin sister named Peggy, but it was only in May last year that they were reunited — more than 53 years after being separated in an east London workhouse.

They were born in 1928 during the depression, their mother an unmarried domestic servant, their father a Scottish merchant seaman. Dorrie, who had fair hair, was adopted within three weeks by a woman who had lost her own daughter and advertised for a similar little girl as a replacement. Peggy was sent to a children's home before being adopted.

After the 1976 law enabling adopted children to trace their real parents, Dorrie started the search for her twin. Different newspapers, television programmes and the Salvation Army were approached, without success. Then John Stroud heard of the quest and put them in touch. Both say they feel they have known each other all their lives.

With Peggy living in Pontefract and Dorrie in Southend, the only big differences between them appear to be due to the

analyses and some conservation treatment; since the York City Council has gone against expert archaeological and museological advice in insisting that the helmet be displayed in the Castle Museum, just outside the medieval city wall, the BM is charging it for the work done to make the piece displayable.

Cast iron

Another piece of ironworking research is reported from central China, where a number of stack-casting moulds and kilns in which the moulds were made have been excavated. In stack-casting, moulds are piled one above the other, and the molten iron trickles down from the "gate" at the top and fills up the moulds from the bottom. The spare metal that solidifies in the runners and sprues leading to the moulds is then broken off and the objects cleaned for despatch and use.

The Chinese used a "white" cast iron, high in carbon, and thus very hard, and consequently needed to keep the runners and sprues as narrow as possible to avoid enormous effort in breaking off the implements themselves. They accomplished this by heating the moulds in a kiln, and pouring in the molten iron while the mould was still hot.

The archaeologists at Wenzian in Henan, on the Huanghe River cleaned sets of the moulds of 2,000 years of dirt, relocated them with a protective layer of straw mud, and then heated them.

In the first experiment they were kept at a temperature of 300° centigrade for five hours before the molten iron was poured in. The resulting castings were found to be of low quality, with large holes and excessive shrinkage. Next, the moulds were heated to 600° centigrade for six hours, then allowed to cool to 300° before the iron was poured. All the castings were of high quality except a set of key wedges, which were quite thick, and could apparently have been done with a bit more heat.

Another interesting discovery at Wenzian was a master mould: from which as many as 10,000 copies could have been made before the

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: SCIENTIFIC ARCHAEOLOGY

master showed serious wear. Assemble line production has a longer history than we think.

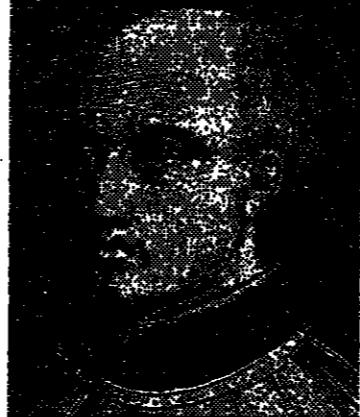
Phosphorus clues

The remains of prehistoric and later buildings can be confusing palimpsests of postholes: how can we work out the plans of the former structures and tell what they were used for?

One answer recently suggested is to sample for organic phosphorus: this is deposited within a living site by the gradual build-up of plant debris, food remains, faeces and urine. At the Romano-British farmstead site of Cefn Graenau in Gwynedd, North Wales, J. S. Conway of the University College of North Wales at Bangor took soil samples at one-metre intervals from the floors of the excavated huts, and also from neighbouring fields, and then measured the total phosphorus content. The "cosmopolitan" showing phosphorus levels were then subjected to the statistical manipulation of Trend Surface Analysis, which examined the variability in phosphorus distribution.

In one building the occupation was found to be confined to the central portion, suggesting beds or benches around the walls, and also indicated the location of the doorway. In another, a high level of phosphorus across the middle suggested two animal stalls, with a central drain down which animal urine flowed. A low level at one end is seen as the site of a manger which would prevent the animals trampling and encranging there. A third building had two hearths marked by high phosphorus levels.

Occupation of buildings in general led to high phosphorus, while yards had low levels: even where functions cannot be as well documented as they were at Cefn Graenau, postholes and phosphorus together should make the definition of ancient buildings much easier.



Lice on ice

One of man's less welcome cohabitants, the body louse, has been identified from a site in Greenland. Recently lice were divided into two species, the head and body louse (with suggestion that the latter may have evolved from the former as clothing was invented), and although head lice are known from Egyptian mummies, from prehistoric Peru, and from a palaeoindian site in Utah, remains of the body louse have rarely been found.

The specimen from Klaersarvik, probably the Sandnes of the Viking sagas, is unlikely to have lived alone; a parasitologist earlier this century recorded a total of 10,428 lice from a single shirt, and Thomas a Becket's hair shirt after his murder was reported to be heavily infested.

Head or tales

A little matter of a quarter of a million years is causing some disagreement among students of the earliest inhabitants of Europe. A recent suggestion that the famous, almost complete, skull from Tautavel in south-west

France was much older than first thought has caused much Gallic satisfaction. Two methods of measuring the behaviour of electrons trapped in a calcite lattice, known as thermoluminescence (TL) and electron spin resonance (ESR) have been used, and the Franco-Japanese team led by Yuji Yokoyama have claimed that the Tautavel skull dates to at least half a million years ago, and perhaps to as much as 700,000 years. In contrast, our own Swanscombe Skull from Kent, in the Natural History Museum, is thought to be a mere 250,000 years old.

Unfortunately for the entente cordiale, some scientists think the Tautavel skull is only about the same age as Swanscombe, and some of them are British. Dr Ann Wintle, a TL specialist at Cambridge, has reviewed the conflicting claims, and points out that the earlier set of TL and ESR results would indicate a date of about 200,000 years for a travertine just above the archaeological deposit. The new method of ESR dating used by Yokoyama and his associates involves heating the sample, and not everyone agrees that this is a good idea; nor does the dismissal of one set of TL dates as too young (compared with their new measurements) by Yokoyama's team bring agreement. As Dr Wintle notes in a recent review for Nature, "Dating of European Middle Pleistocene hominid remains is a highly controversial affair, and an emotive

old problem, and the new method of ESR dating is likely to add to the confusion."

Flints problem

TL dating, this time on flint tools, has cleared up a chronological problem in Dorset, where the early habitation site atop Heagisdown Head near Christchurch Harbour.

Two periods of occupation have been identified by archaeologists working there, and the Oxford TL laboratory (whose director, Dr Martin Atkinson, has just been elected FRS) has produced dates averaging 12,500 plus/minus 1,150 years ago for the earlier, Palaeolithic occupation, and 9750 plus/minus 750 years ago for the succeeding Mesolithic. Both occupations were of hunters, living in the open.

Antler combs

It seems that Roman and medieval craftsmen preferred to use antler rather than the more available bone for making small objects such as combs, because antler was much tougher. Experiments using an Instron 1122 table testing machine, usually used for industrial materials, have shown that antler is 30 per cent more flexible than bone while being equally strong, and takes 2.7 times more energy to break.

Antler combs were made with short toothed sections fastened side-by-side in between two plates, not for ease of replacement when some teeth broke, as had been suggested, but because only short sections could be made with the teeth along the grain rather than across it; antler, like bone, is much stronger and more flexible in the direction of the grain.

Norman Hammond

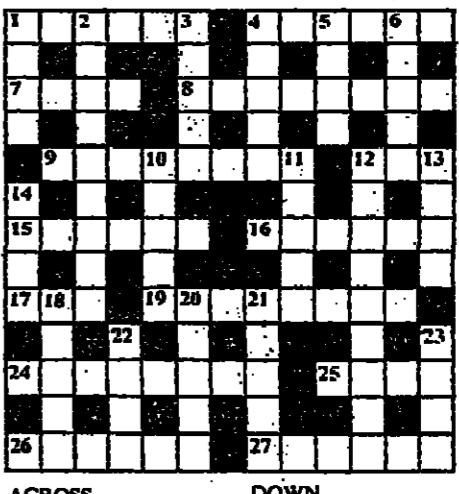
9,000 years ago and carbon dates of 7,700-9,000 years. The TL dates were obtained using what is called the "fine-grain" method, but as a check samples from Zengpiyan were also dated using the TL "quartz inclusion" technique which measures larger pieces of quartz temper from the pottery fabric. This method gave set dates ranging from 7,000 to 10,300 years ago.

Wang and Zhou conclude, reasonably enough that satisfactory dates can be obtained from TL alone.

Palms do not generally grow well enough in Britain to produce edible fruit. Better and quicker to buy a few coconuts and leave them lying half-hidden round the estate. If you miscalculate your crawl through the garden and become genuinely stranded through heat and exhaustion, before you get to that Pimms you may well be grateful for a life-restoring draught of coconut milk.

Last German tourists, German travellers are generally more intrepid than the rest of us, and some experts say that no stretch of sand is complete without at least one parched citizen of Hamburg. In my experience though, they are more trouble than they are worth, as they usually bring their family to stay later, in gratitude for being rescued.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 107)



ACROSS	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Foray (6)	Insufficient (6)	Besullen (4)	Engrave (8)	Uncompromising (9)	Creativity (4)
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Language (6)	Stretch (6)	Perplex (3)	Encapsulate (8)	Calca water (8)	US coin (4)
	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Letter container (6)	Custom (9)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Task (5)
	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Stone worker (5)	Distinctive air (4)	Minister (5)	Royal house (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Mountful chancery (5)	Additional (5)	Custom (5)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Jewish minister (5)	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Custom (5)	Year (4)	Coral bear (4)	Willow tree (5)	Boat (4)	Low dam (4)

SOLUTION TO No 106
ACROSS: 1 Elapse 5 Prim 8 Alder 9 Crumple
11 Langlauf 13 Snip 15 Mismanagement 18 Lark
19 Demented 22 Outrage 23 Skimp 24 Grit
25 Tandem
DOWN: 1 Rush (4)
2 Letter container (6)
3 (5)
4 Twist (5)
5 Stone worker (5)
6 Jewish minister (5)
7 Additional (5)
8 Custom (5)
9 Year (4)
10 Coral bear (4)<br

WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

A blow-out in the Morgan

At the time last year I was saying exactly the same thing: "I have nothing to do with Morgan Prewitt's birthday party. I ignored advice then, to all our friends, and must not repeat the error this Saturday. The imperative has strengthened (you only have to compare the 1983 Morgan with the 1982 model) so that I have no confidence in my resolve. More about Morgan in a moment myself to describing it."

for greater moment is the fate of Mr Heaseman from Number 27, you may remember, was sent hence to Africa to be eaten by lions - we had my spider's assistance on this; and the nation to be honoured with the portion of his flesh was Switzerland. Something has clearly gone wrong with the scheme, for there is now, walking down the road in his Safeway bag, apparently the worse for his experiences in the Dark Continent. He looks: he is as ever, clanking along Petrelum-petrolum, irresistibly pulled in the sky. I point him out to my usually reliable source who is evidently thrown for the first time in her little life. She will come with an explanation soon. With such "offers", who needs bailiffs?



Now then: Morgan Prewitt. The terrible say - as they always will say people - that he is a gladiator, but I know plain greed when I see it. One should of course feel sorry for boys only in their late fives to have been born straight into a mid-life crisis, but I am afraid my first sympathies go to the other children who are victims of his uncontrollable rages - or Morgans as they are called hereabouts. His mother, would you believe, is a model and has gained the family monopoly of elegance, leaving nothing but obesity for her first (and 31) born. Of the father little is known, save that he is an absentee achievement and has a skull mated in tight public curbs. Diamonds of South Africa are often mentioned when his name crops up, and is true that he once harangued madly in the school playground for suggesting that the MCC should not let that country. Easy to see where Morgans come from.

Her Switzerland is not starving as papers say, or it is a nation of gourmets. My daughter now tells me Mr Heaseman was taken out the big kettle and sent home because he was too strong. Some are so simple, and it is with us that we can now close the user-man file.

Prewitt File, alas, stays open.ious Mother Number One (only just moved in) comes round and lies to know the following: is it that Morgan's party piece is on small girls' heads until they cry? Does he really tear up the junior paper tricks until he, too,

crisis? Is he, in short, Richmond's answer to the Beast of Exmoor? Concerned Father Number One (me) fibs back that these are irresponsible exaggerations and the worst excesses of the oral tabloid press. She is in such hot pursuit of personal solidarity that I agree to be represented - at junior level - at Morgan's party. What else could I do?



Concerned Mother Number One ups the stakes by coming round again and offering (her words) to take my children and hers to the wretched Morgans if I turn pick them all up afterwards. With such "offers", who needs bailiffs?

Saturday 17.30 hrs. House of Prowitt: I am keeping my side of the bargain: it is worse than I had feared. The star of the show is in mid-Morgasm, and the supporting cast - the mother, the au pair, the guests, the guests' parents - are all distraught. I learn that Morgan has surpassed himself this year by feeding a slim Ming vase into the sink disposal unit and melting two of his father's Francoise Hardy LPs against the immersion heater. I look around the room for Petrelum's boys, but vain. They are confined to barracks after having destroyed their Suzuki violin beneath the wheels of the Volvo Estate. A pity really, since they and Morgan deserve each other. Next year perhaps. The birthday boy is a blur of martial influences: a huge plastic breastplate à la Tamburlaine, masking the expense account (sorry, gladiatorial midriff), and in his hand a black metal thing that is almost certainly an Armalite. As for his face, imagine Caligula after a rough night and you have the picture.

With his free hand he is clawing at the innards of the conjurer's suitcase and scorching the clever little paper devices in his fist. All the while he is chanting some sort of battle-manatra which sounds like "Eeyo peeyo Japaneezy!" Exit conjurer in tears.



Memo to self: Book 1984 holiday to coincide with M. Prewitt's seventh birthday party. Better still, delegate child collection to Concerned Mother Number One.

Penny Perrick meets a dissident's brave wife

Fighting for life

had spent the previous two days on aeroplanes and her brown eyes were dulled with tiredness; her voice was hoarse and she was barely louder than a whisper. Exactly nine years since 32-year-old Anatoly Scharansky last saw his wife, Anatoly, the imprisoned dissident, but she talks to him as if they parted only yesterday after nine years of being apart, though, in fact, Anatoly made to leave Russia the day after their wedding.

He was in London last week to sign the West Human Rights Agreement Madrid this September until the Russians detained him in labour for trying to monitor the Helsinki human rights agreement. He was released. She had gone right from Heathrow to Downing Street for a 30-minute meeting with Thatcher, who expressed concern about Anatoly's deteriorating health and said she would meet to press for his release.

That night before, Anatoly had to Washington from Israel to American congressmen in an eight-hour vigil in support of her cause. This was the year she had hoped to finish her course in law and art in Jerusalem, where now lives, but this was also the year that Anatoly went on hunger strike, in protest against not being allowed to write to Anatoly or even to mention her name in any correspondence.

At the end of the hunger strike, Anatoly had lost his hair and weighed to the weight of a 10-year-old child. He won the right to send her out of Russia.

While we sat on a window seat in House of Lords, on the opposite bank of the Thames the Mayor of London, Mr Vladimir Promyslov, telling assembled GLC council-

The message to Mary Chamberlain from some of the Fenwoman whose lives she chronicled eight years ago was short and to the point: "Show your face in this village again and you'll be lynched."

In 1972 Isleham was a welcoming place. She had moved there from the city to buy a little land and "drop out with hens and goats." She ended up writing a classic. Her portrait of village life was the first book to be published by the Virago feminist imprint.

Isleham was an idyllic village on the edge of the Fens. A landscape of flat land and hard lives. In Mary's eyes there were no roses round the door, or honey for tea.

At the time *Akenfield* was enjoying popularity and coloured the city-dweller's view of the country life. But where were all the women in Ronald Blythe's book? The chapters were mostly devoted to men: there were the craftsmen, officers and gentlemen, the orchard men - even God. Mary determined to redress the balance. The idea of *Fenwoman* - the feminist antidote to *Akenfield* - was born.

"History is as much about women bringing up a family on nine shillings a week as about men's deeds and diplomatic decisions." Over two years with the aid of a tape recorder, she made history out of women's voices. She diagnosed the names of the women whose lives were recorded in detail, and changed the name of the village to Gisela.

Mary talked to three generations of women who told stories of marriage and childbirth, washing and cooking, cleaning and weeding, stretching back more than 150 years. Their own feelings that their lives were less important than those of their husbands made her only more determined to set down their stories.

The older women talked about their girlhood. With little brothers and sisters to care for, it ended early. The little girls talked about growing older. They wanted to be nurses, hairdressers, mothers. The younger women talked about sex. That's what caused Mary Chamberlain's love affair with the village to turn sour.

A few days before publication, while the book reviewers were preparing favourable phrases - "strong and moving" (*Sunday Times*), "solid social history" (*Times Educational Supplement*) - two men visited the village. Mary, who had moved to a teaching job in Ipswich, was back showing friends around.

"One of the men pulled out a copy of the book and asked me if I'd seen it. Seen it? Of course. I wrote it." That was that; a quote and a picture of a smiling Mary, book in hand.

NEXT Sunday, under the headline "Why Mary Unveiled a Village's Love Secrets", and "There'll Be Red Faces Down on the Farm. When This Book Comes Out", the *News of*

FIRST PERSON

6 A deep-rooted fear of all things medical has always prevented me from paying much attention to the National Health Service versus private medicine debate. But having fallen victim to the chronic bad press the NHS so lavishly receives, I decided a long time ago that, in the event, private medicine was probably the lesser of the two evils.

I have no criticism to make about private medical care. My three experiences of private hospitals were no better and no worse than I expected. But a recent and sudden encounter with the NHS revealed to

me that the abattoir image under which it toils may not necessarily be the whole picture.

A few weeks ago circumstances forced me to consult a general practitioner under the NHS. The bleak and oxidized conditions of his surgery, which he runs entirely single-handed, is a dreadful and damning indictment of the health service. But the doctor was sharp and wise, and he diagnosed by instinct and experience rather than by modern medical technology.

He deemed the matter urgent, though not an emergency, and telephoned Charing Cross Hospital for an immediate appointment.

There was a time lapse of about an hour between leaving the surgery and seeing the doctor at Charing

Cross. So much for the myth about interminable waiting lists, queues and delays on the NHS.

The official clinic was over by this time and I saw the doctor in his office, presumably, was his lunch-break. I immediately confessed my neurosis about doctors, hospitals and all their associations - a problem many a private doctor has treated with barely concealed disdain. But the attitude of this doctor was one of total understanding.

The problem was an abdominal tumour whose existence I had refused to acknowledge and which had now grown to *Guinness Book of Records* proportions. I should have been admitted immediately, but the doctor appreciated that I had left an unattended dog at home, as well as

much urgent journalistic business and other commitments, so it was arranged that I should return at 9pm.

I can barely tolerate sickness in myself and I could never be a witness to illness in others and I knew I would crack up completely in a hospital ward. Before I returned that evening I had already decided to book my house, if necessary, and ask the consultant to attend me privately. In consideration of my problem, however, I had been assigned a private room and bathroom. So much for the myth about impersonal conveyor-belt treatment on the NHS.

None of my whims (no visitors, for example), were treated with the contempt they deserved. At all times

the doctors and nurses were

enormously and consistently tolerant, patient and kind. The operation took place after two days of promptly executed tests.

The tumour was found to be malignant and will necessitate further surgery. I have now had time to ponder all the alternatives but I have chosen to return and continue treatment at Charing Cross.

I recognize my great fortune at living in the area covered by Charing Cross, a modern and largely unintimidating hospital, and my even greater fortune at falling into the hands of particularly sympathetic and caring

as well as skilful team of doctors. I doubt whether my experience is unique

and it is certainly worth recording in defence of the NHS.

Anna Kythreotis

Forgiving the Fenwoman



Mary Chamberlain in Isleham eight years ago, before the storm broke. Feeling still runs high, but many would welcome her back.

Wendy Davies, who was pictured on the cover of the original *Fenwoman*, "So was everyone else except for some old folk who still haven't forgotten the scandal. Even though the names were changed, we could identify nearly everybody in the book, but in a small village like this we all know everyone else's business anyway."

White this game of who's who (or who's sleeping with whom) was going on, the villagers felt betrayed.

"They saw my picture in the paper and assumed I had made thousands of pounds from selling their stories to the *News of the World*. In their eyes I had done it to sell more copies of my book. I had exploited them, not her."

She called a public meeting immediately to put her case. Tempers were high and the older people who had been outraged by the sex in the book sat with arms folded in the front row. "We're not reading that filth," said one. Others were pained that they had not been mentioned.

"What moved me most was the attitude of Petula's husband. He had suffered more than most from teasing, particularly as the fictional Petula had remarked that they no longer had sex very often. Yet he stood up to defend me, and his speech turned the meeting right round."

Since then Mary has been back only once - quietly, to see friends. But this week, to coincide with the paperback publication of *Fenwoman*, she was to have returned to meet some of the women she had interviewed for the book. Until that message about lynching.

"The feeling in the village is still high after all this time," the postmistress told her. "There isn't much of a welcome here."

But providing she stays clear of the post office, that isn't true. "I was proud of Mary and the book," said

Fenwoman by Mary Chamberlain is published by Routledge & Kegan Paul, price £4.95.

Left: how the *News of the World* saw Mary's book and, above, Mary today, still with friends in the village.

To the NHS, with thanks

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as well as skilful team of doctors. I doubt whether my experience is unique

and it is certainly worth recording in defence of the NHS.

Anna Kythreotis

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Short and sweet

Turn out the moulds and carefully peel away the muslin. Serve them chilled with strawberries, raspberries or redcurrants. Sugar and thin cream may be offered separately.

The secret of baking light scones is to make the dough with sour milk or cultured buttermilk, and to handle it as little as possible.

Scones

Makes about 10

225 g (8 oz) yogurt curd cheese

300 ml (1/2 pint) double cream

2 tablespoons caster sugar

Beat the yogurt curd cheese until it is smooth. Whip the cream until it holds soft peaks. Combine the cheese, cream and sugar and beat them lightly together.

If you have *coeur à la crème* moulds (they must have drain holes in the bottom), line them with butter muslin or cheese cloth. Alternatively, line a sieve with muslin to make a large dome of the cheese mixture which can be turned out and covered or surrounded with fruit. Spoon the mixture into the mould or scone tin and press it well into the shape. Stand the moulds on a plate to catch the whey, or over a bowl if using a sieve, and refrigerate them for about 12 hours.

Sift together into a bowl the flour,

cream of tartar, bicarbonate of soda and salt. Add the diced butter and rub it into the flour lightly, using your fingertips or a pastry blender.

Add the egg and enough milk to make a soft dough. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured board and knead it lightly and briefly, handling it just enough to eliminate the cracks.

Quickly strain the jelly through a sieve lined with muslin or pour it into two or three clear jars. Fit a waxed paper disc over the top of each jar and seal the jars with transparent foil.

Refrigerate until cold, seal the jars with transparent foil and store them in the refrigerator.

When you are ready to eat, remove the foil and the waxed paper disc and turn the jelly out onto a plate.

Reheat the scones in a preheated

oven at 104°C (220°F) for 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, heat the jam in a small

pan until it is warm and pour it over the scones.

Top with the jam and serve with

clotted cream and a dollop of

sugar-free jam.

Repeat the process until all the



About turn

Colin Hanoman, the man who changed his name to Margaret Thatcher in the general election, is proud of a letter he received from Tony Benn after announcing his intention to lodge an election petition against the returning officer's ruling that he was "an obvious unreality". Benn writes: "People fought and died for the right to vote. Do not mock it by force. Hanoman has indeed abandoned his bid to have the Finchley poll nullified, not because of what he calls Benn's 'very pro-Establishment response', but because he cannot raise the money."

Friend or foe?

The new boys' tribulations continue. John Hayes, the newly elected Conservative member for Harlow, is telling friends how he appeared on *Anglia television* alongside Eldon Griffiths. Griffiths kept saying "you and your party", apparently under the impression that Hayes came from the other side of the House.

Not le car

A colleague spent much of the weekend with an unusually garrulous AA man who could not be kept off the subject of Leyland cars. He swore he was called out to broken down Metros and so on, day in, day out. No other make came close. Then he confided that he should not be saying any of this since head office told all patrolmen to keep their comments to themselves. Quite right, AA headquarters confirm. British Leyland offer AA membership and insurance as part of their sales promotion; hence the disproportionate number of calls to attend BL cars. No such alibi invalidates the observation of the AA man called (in vain) to my old Citroen GS: "Oh, God," he said. "Cars we cope with. Citroens are something else".

Stitch in time

Ian MacGregor, giving evidence to a Lord's sub-committee, said he was having samplers made to be hung in coal executives' bedrooms when he takes over at the Coal Board in the autumn. They will bear the message: "Petrochemicals came from coal at the beginning of the century and will return there at the end of it." The challenge of illustrating this almost unanswerable theme appealed, at any rate, to Lady Llewelyn-Davies of Hestoe. When it came to her turn to question MacGregor she said: "I have no questions. I am going to embroider a sampler."

BARRY FANTONI



I'd like to see some bloke tell me to go and get my hair cut

Grave matters

There is something macabre about the fairytale agreement by which Denstone College, Staffordshire, is guaranteed world exclusive rights to the story of the search for the *Titanic* in its watery grave. The Texan millionaire leading the search is Jack Grimm, and the college bursar who finally nailed the deal with him is called Peter Pine-Coffin.

Whale met

Sir Peter Scott, at 73, has just made a large addition to his family - five humpback whales, adopted under a fund-raising scheme run by the International Fund for Animal Welfare. Sir Peter's foster-whales, which he encountered off Cape Cod last month, are named Stub, Pegasus, Pepper, Fringe and Binoc, and, at \$10 each a year, are surprisingly cheap. Would that the care and feeding of your average human Leviathan were so painless.

Dais over apex

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of the English Tourist Board's committee of inquiry into Britain's zoos, took an alarming tumble from the dais yesterday when rising to announce its results. It pointed the need, I suppose, for what his near-namesake, Michael Montague, the ETB chairman, said zoos should have: "a keeper of *homo sapiens*".

Don Crown and his Busking Budgerigars are receiving catcalls from animal lovers. LWT's *Six O'clock Show* last Friday showed one of Crown's more sporting budgets taking a harmless hop from a radio-controlled miniature motor-cycle.

By the time Crown reached his Leicester Square pitch, he claims, "Rent-a-crowd were out alleging cruelty to budgerigars". He has had to cancel some performances since. He does not want them frightening the birds.

PHS

Still no sign of the new dawn

by Henry Neuburger

Last Thursday, Tim Congdon set out on this page to prove that the centrepiece of the Government's economic policy - the medium term financial strategy - had succeeded. In particular, he claimed that its detractors have now been confounded by events.

I would argue that the medium term financial strategy has proved both unworkable and ineffective. Tim Congdon neither addresses the arguments of its critics nor are his own statistics relevant to any appraisal of the strategy.

With one point, however, I would agree. Britain has been subject to an experiment for the last four years. The moral justification for testing economic theories on whole nations is questionable - particularly when the theories are controversial. Nonetheless, since the experiment has been conducted we might as well appraise the results.

The original strategy was set out in the *Financial Statement and Budget Report 1980-81*. The objective was to bring down inflation and create conditions for a sustainable growth of output and employment. The method was to create stable expectations by setting out a path for the money supply. This was maintained, whatever happened, by adjustment of public spending, tax rates and interest rates. To avoid high rates of interest and to provide room for cutting taxes, emphasis would be placed on public spending control.

Many of the theories underlying this strategy are controversial. Among the ideas open to question are:

- Low inflation leads to sustainable growth of output and employment
- The government can control the money supply
- Controlling the money supply leads to low inflation
- Controlling public spending has an effect on the money supply

In addition, opponents of the medium term financial strategy did not, as Tim Congdon claims, argue that spontaneous growth was impossible under any circumstances. What they argued was that cutting public spending and increasing taxes would reduce output and employ-

ment and that there were no spontaneous mechanisms which would automatically make up for this loss.

The table shows some of the projections from the original medium term financial strategy compared with how events turned out. The table shows that the fall in inflation owes nothing to the Government having stuck to its money supply targets, because those targets were substantially exceeded. The Government proved unable to control either the money supply or public spending.

The Government failed to understand that the effect of spending cuts and a high exchange rate policy was to cut output. This reduced tax revenue and increased social security spending. As a result, public

spending and borrowing were chronically out of their control.

Output consistently disappointed the Government's expectations. The number of occasions on which the Government announced a new dawn only to be "disappointed" is now beyond number. At no time did any upturn seem likely to achieve either an output level or a growth rate comparable with 1979. This experience should serve as a warning against placing too much weight on the latest of these fluctuations in output. If, as Tim Congdon claims, the current upturn owes nothing to public sector stimulus, then why did the Chancellor see the need for emergency cuts in public spending?

We now have inflation at a level which would, I imagine, be consistent with the ambitions of the founders of the medium-term financial strategy. Yet none of them now suggests that we are about to see a substantial improvement in employment. They seem to have lost their faith in even that tenet of the strategy. On the contrary, falling inflation has so far been accompanied by stagnant output and falling employment.

We may or may not have learnt much about economic theory from this experiment, but if we had known in 1980 what we know now I doubt if anyone would adopt the same course.

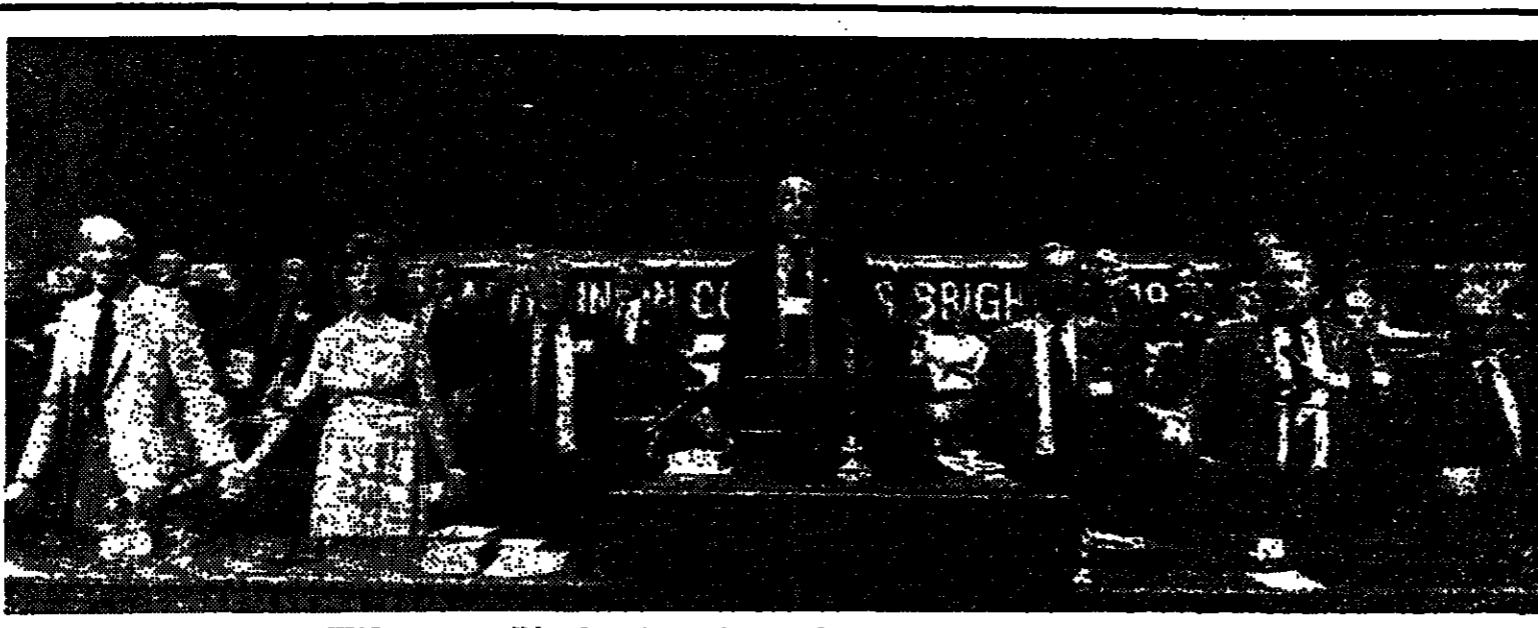
The author is economic adviser to the Leader of the Opposition.

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The medium-term financial strategy: what they expected and what happened

Money supply % growth	Target Actual	1980-1 1981-2 1982-3 1983-4			
		7-11 18	6-10 14	5-8 11	4-5 ?*
Public spending £m 1978-9 prices	Target Actual	66 67½	64½ 67½	54½ 65½	53 (70)
Unemployment millions (GB)	Target Actual	1.5 1.8	1.8 2.3	1.8 (3+)	1.8 (3+)
Output % change	Target Actual	-2½ -2½	(-1) -5	(-2) -4	(+1) (-2)

*Deductions from gov't figures. *Government projections



At the TUC congress: all brothers, but their comrades abroad could point the way to the future

Bernard Levin: The way we live now

Striking out in Swiss time

so near to starvation that they will agree to anything at all, in order to get their hands on the crust of dry bread that is all they can buy with their week's wages and to keep over their heads the leaky roof of the filthy, unheated hovels that are all they can afford by way of accommodation. See?

Well, no, actually, the Swiss worker's standard of living is getting on for twice as high as that of his British equivalent. Er, Harumph. That is to say, Ah.

The Swiss trade union federation has just signed a five-year contract with the employers; by the terms of it the working week will be reduced by an hour in 1986 and by another hour in 1988, and on each occasion there will be a pay agreed cut-off date. This almost literally incredible bargain is the fruit of an accord between the two sides of Swiss industry first established in 1937 and renewed ten times since; it was the creation of a former Marxist called Konrad Ig (perhaps I have gone off my head) who was the leader of the Swiss unions at the time, and by its terms strikes were renounced on one side and lockouts on the other, and it was agreed that all disputes would be resolved "by pragmatic negotiations in sincerity and good faith".

Now if you were to brandish that story at a representative sample of British union leaders you would receive in reply, after the contemptuous snort had died down, the obvious explanation: the Swiss worker is a miserable wretch, ground into poverty beneath the iron heel of the capitalists and beaten into submission to the said capitalists by a brutal government of gnomes, the result being that Swiss workers are

drift seems to be that Socrates should have counted himself lucky to suffer nothing worse than a thorough poisoning for telling people things they did not wish to hear. Most emphatically, our union leaders do not want to hear about what they can afford by way of accommodation. See?

I can now return to my theme of last week. British trade union leaders have the power to keep others poor. That is not a very glorious power - it would hardly have sufficed Napoleon or Sardanapalus - but such as it is, they have it. The question is: why do they choose to exercise it?

Like the union men in Mervyn Tydil who filled in a grave just before the burial because it had been dug in defiance of a strike that included gravediggers, trade union leaders who believe that their members still go to work in clogs are fighting the class war before last because nobody has taught them how to use power for good ends rather than bad, or even for sensible purposes rather than idiotic. It has been repeatedly pointed out, not least by me, that the American worker doesn't mind if the boss has a larger Cadillac this year than last, provided that he has a larger Ford. Why is the British worker willing to be Fordless to ensure that the boss is Rollsless?

The answer, I believe, is that he isn't, but that his union leaders have the power to ensure that he behaves as though he is. And the most encouraging movement to be observed today anywhere in British industry - more encouraging than any signs that the recession is ending - is that of the British industrial worker's revolt against his leaders' power. In last month's election 60

per cent of the votes cast by trade union members were for candidates other than Labour ones; it is hardly possible to imagine a clearer demonstration that they were rejecting an attitude that simply did not accord with their own aspirations or indeed their own view of reality.

And the miners elected Mr Scargill their president by an immense majority, but have ever since greeted with thumb to nose his demands that they should lower their standard of living in order to keep him in metaphors.

The Labour Party is shortly going to find itself with Mr Kinnock as leader; the party might as well affiliate en masse to Exit. But it will not escape notice that this result will have been achieved largely through the squalid dealings of a few trade union bosses delivering herds of spurious votes like cattle-rustlers.

The Labour Party is beyond saving; but the trade union movement can still be resurrected by its members. The trade union legislation proposed by the Government has been criticized as too weak, but the critics miss the point, for the main object is not to impose harsher limits on trade union activities; it is to further separate the boneheads who lead the unions from the members who are dragged, by the boneheads' incapacity for using power, into avoidable poverty. They are also dragged by their leaders into serious losses of liberty (not to mention into activities which deprive others of liberty), but that is less pressing, and less obvious, than the fact that the union leaders are denying their members attainable material advancement. Mr Tebbit said in the last Parliament that he was going to give the unions a dose of democracy. It is an audacious proposal; nothing less than taking the power from the bosses who have shown themselves unfit to use it and putting it into the hands of the members, who are now showing signs of wanting to learn how it should be used. It is perhaps too much to hope that British trade union members, even then, will promptly adopt the Swiss system devised by Mr Konrad Ig. But at least they have begun to think that his way is preferable to that of Mr Solomon Binding.

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Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Is that mortgage umbrella a bit too big?

The other day, when lunching in the City, I was asked to explain the Government's view of accelerating house prices. "I thought," said my inquisitor, "that gazing up was as good a sign as any that there was too much cash about. Yet when the building societies raise the mortgage rate, all hell is let loose. What is one to think?"

Shortly before the building societies acted last month I had had a similar inquiry, though from a different standpoint, from one of the leaders of that movement. "Any chance," he had asked me, "that the Prime Minister will let us get on and make up our own minds about the mortgage rate?" He did not have to wait long for an answer. Mrs Thatcher "did not disapprove her disappointment" when the rate was lifted by one and a quarter per cent.

Truth to tell both my interlocutors were asking for the moon. If the come when prime ministers lose interest in the mortgage rate, John McEnroe will blow kisses to the referee, and Arthur Scargill will withdraw to a Trappist monastery. I remember how, after the Heath government dissolved in 1974, one of its former members whom I had regularly cross-questioned in Parliament about its monetary policy upbraided me: "It wasn't a blind bit of use you always bang on about the money supply. Since mortgage rates were not to rise there was no way we could control it anyway."

Which does suggest a somewhat less than perfect world, does it not? For throughout the second half of that government, when the monetary aggregates were keeping some of us awake at night, interest rates (including those for mortgages) were well below the inflation rate. So those who left their money on deposit with the building societies (many of them below the threshold) were being taken to the cleaners. Yet rather than allow them to enjoy some real income from their money we cheerfully ran the risk of speeding up inflation if the building societies might campaign for, I bet he does not, all the same.

There remains another change which could get the politicians permanently out of the building societies' hair. They could scrap the mortgage rate cartel, and leave the individual societies to pick the rates that suit them. Perhaps, with the help of some energetic elbow-work from our new Chancellor, they might before too long do precisely that.

The author was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

James Curran

A small price to pay for the facts

The proposal for a Labour newspaper has provoked a lively correspondence, but the idea is not likely to get off the ground. Bill Keys, general secretary of Sogat 62 and the main driving force behind, had great difficulty in persuading colleagues from other unions to fund even a modest feasibility study. If it came to putting up substantial cash for the paper itself, most union leaders would back off.

This is partly because the unions are in financial difficulties. Union membership has fallen by 1.6 million since the end of 1981, mainly because of rising unemployment. Many unions have found it difficult to make economies to match the fall in revenue.

Nevertheless, the trade union movement clearly has the resources to fund its own daily if it wishes. But in its present defensive and demoralized state, it is not in a mood to attempt a high-risk venture. Conservative legislation has whittled away the unions' legal immunities, leaving them vulnerable to large damages. Closed shop ballots, which will come into force next year, may further reduce union membership.

There is no real sign of a sustained economic recovery. In these circumstances, the instinct of many union executives will be to husband their resources in readiness for the worsening situation ahead.

In any case, union leaders have not given high priority to communicating with the general public or even with their own members. They allowed the *Daily Herald* to close in 1964, even though its readership was more than five times that of *The Times*. Trade union journals remain, with a few exceptions, underfunded and over-controlled. Even union support for the development of a sympathetic press is limited.

Professor Louis Driehl of Simon Fraser University has warned against introducing any Pacific species to the Atlantic because they are potential carriers of undesirable plants and animals. "Once they have been introduced, control is virtually impossible." It's what Cyril Smith has been saying about the SDP for months.

Come to think of it, perhaps the Liberals could rid us of the weed. In *The Day of the Triffids*, the rogue vegetable is finally nobbyled on sabbatical in a lighthouse. Could David Steel's summer project be to repulse *Sargassum Muticum*?

I'm sorry, it's a joking matter. *Sargassum*, after all, is the lowest form of wit.

Paul Pickering



The weed is a problem for small boats because it gets tangled round propellers. We don't know yet how it affects swimming. Whether wonders if the EEC will pay compensation for damage to boats.

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La crème de la crème

also on page 24

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Survivor tells of helicopter's last second

From a Staff Reporter, St Mary's

The last second before the Scilly Isles helicopter Oscar November sank was vividly described yesterday by one of the six survivors. Mr Lucille Langley-Williams said she had heard and felt a crack followed by three jerks almost simultaneously and before she could ask a friend what had happened "the water was up to my chest".

Mrs Langley-Williams, an Isles of Scilly councillor, said: "It was very quick. I bumped forwards and hit my head on the seat in front."

She turned to her friend, Mrs Megan Smith, aged 60, to ask "what the hell is going on?" but could only utter one word before sea-water swept into the passenger compartment.

Mrs Langley-Williams was speaking from St Mary's hostel where she is being treated for three cracked ribs. She and Mrs Smith had been visiting Penzance for a health authority meeting and were returning "about what would happen and I said the boat was on the way."

Helicopters searching for them at one time were directly overhead but not visible because of thick mist. The survivors heard the marmos so off on St Mary's signalling the lifeboat crew to launch. Mrs Langley-Williams said the children wanted to know what the procedure was for rescue operations. "We were just chatting about what would happen and I said the boat was on the way."

Searchers find 17 bodies in crashed helicopters

Continued from page 1

Yesterday Miss Lynda King Taylor, the journalist who flew to the Isle of Scilly four days before the fatal accident, denied points made by Mr Michael Ginn, managing director of BA Helicopters, quoted in *The Times* yesterday.

She denied that she had travelled with a press party, as Mr Ginn had suggested, but rather on a later flight in the company of other tourists. She repeated that they had been allowed to roam freely about the aircraft, taking photographs while the seat belt signs were illuminated.

She also said that Mr Ginn's assertion that BA had supplied the police with a full passenger list two hours after the accident did not correspond with the Exeter police's account; they said they had been hampered in identifying bodies by the absence of a full passenger list.

Local hoteliers, she added, had said they had been working late on Saturday night helping the police by ringing round to check on which holidaymakers had failed to arrive at their destinations.

As the water rushed in "I closed my mouth and took a deep breath and by then I was under water".

Her seat had twisted round on impact and the seat-belt had tightened. She struggled to undo it. "I realised I had not got an awful lot of breath left. I got the seat belt undone and went to the door. A handle was there and I pushed it. It moved and I went up."

When she emerged on the surface she found the two pilots, Mrs Smith and two children, Harold Goddard, aged 12, and Ellen Hanslow, aged 15.

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The Commissioner is 100 today



At home: Commissioner Bramwell-Booth in her garden (Photograph: Brian Harris).

By David Nicholson-Lord
Just a fraction of a century younger than the institution she has served so faithfully for so long, Salvation Army Commissioner Catherine Bramwell-Booth celebrates her hundredth birthday today in the rural seclusion of her home at Finchampstead, near Wokingham, Berkshire.

Appearances of retirement are deceptive, however. Exactly 118 years after the army was founded by her grandfather, the commissioner's uniform is as crisp and neat as ever, her teetotal convictions unaltered and her belief in God, the Devil and the vital business of saving souls intact. Over the last century, she says, she has had some "wonderful times with the Lord".

More particularly, she has developed her own distinctive brand of spreading the word. She has appeared on television chat shows. She has been honoured by the Guild of Toastmasters. She has given 30 interviews already this year. She is, in the words of one senior Salvation Army official, "the best public relations officer we've got".

Commissioner Bramwell-Booth is tall, crisp, and straight-backed, with a twinkle

in her eye and an air of not standing too much nonsense from others. She believes in direct talking, loves an argument and has been known to exercise an acutely toxic effect on television hosts whose manners slip.

She was one of seven children born to Bramwell Booth, son of the Salvation Army's founder, and his wife Florence. A surviving brother lives in Buckinghamshire. Two younger sisters - Olive, aged 91, and Dora, aged 89, respectively a colonel and a major in the Salvation Army - share the house in Berkshire and with Madge, aged 84, the cook, will be joining in the celebrations today.

Mr Clark talked about "the success of the pilot scheme". He seemed confident of his knowledge, pilots being the sort of people about whom he displayed knowledge when asking questions concerning his old subject of defence. He was, however, answering a Tory backbencher who had asked him about the progress of special employment and training facilities.

Flying under the radar

While Mr Clark was talking about pilot schemes, Mr Dennis Skinner, the backbencher who used to sit directly opposite him, when Mr Clark was a backbencher, tried to fly in under Mr Clark's radar.

As Mr Clark moved towards the dispatch box, his starboard was the target of precision heckling from Mr Skinner a few yards below. "Not very efficient now, I she?... cez a bag o' nerves... not the same is it?"

Wisely, and unlike in the old days, Mr Clark did not exchange shots with Mr Skinner. Instead, he concentrated on satisfying his Tory backbencher questioner and landed his brief safely. But in this confrontation between Mr Skinner and Mr Clark, the Beast of Rolsöver versus The

Mr Skinner has been having a relatively quiet Parliament so far. We sense in speaking too early with five years to go. He has been confirming himself to an average of a heckle a day, apart from two per Prime Minister's question time.

Balance of tedium

Later, in employment questions yesterday, he asked a question about Freemasons. He implied that Freemasons were influential or powerful. In this belief, Mr Skinner was part of a great tradition which includes the Inquisition, Mozart's enemies, Hitler, and General Franco, who it may be remembered, is said to have warned against the Freemasons on his deathbed. What do they, and Mr Skinner, know that we do not?

He demanded of Mr John Selwyn Gummer, another Under Secretary at Employment, whether the Government was going to bring in a law to regulate internal elections within freemasonry, as it intended to regulate elections within trade unionism. His point appeared to be to emphasize the unfairness of the government regulating election in one organization, but not in another. Mr Gummer replied that, unlike unions, freemasons did not enjoy legal immunities. That was why the Government thought their elections should be regulated. At this, Mr Skinner scoffed and pointed his finger across the Conservative benches, implying that they were heaving with unregulated freemasons enjoying legal immunities. "Ah, you'll not touch them," he cried. It could be that the Conservative backbenches are far less interesting than Mr Skinner is trying to suggest.

Later, the defence debate passed off without serious incident. A balance of tedium was maintained between Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State, and Mr John Silkin, the chief Opposition spokesman on defence, such as kept the peace during the recent general election and enabled the country to be safely bored by their endless disputation.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen holds an Investiture at Buckingham Palace, 11.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Prince's Trust, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, attends a Rock Gala in aid of the Trust at the Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road, 7.50.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits the East of England Show and Foxhound Show at Peterborough, 11.20.

Princess Margaret attends the

Royal International Horse Show at White City, 6.45.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron, attends the annual general meeting of the Royal Armoured Corps War Memorial Benevolent Fund, 11.30; and then opens a wing of the Royal Armoured Corps Tank Museum at Bovington, Dorset.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent attend the Royal Tournament at Earls Court, 7.20.

Exhibitions in progress

One Eye on the Pot, Towneley Hall Art Gallery, Burnley; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sun 12 to 5 (until Aug 8).

Princess Margaret attends the

The Lost Rockers of David Oxtoby, recreations of paintings of rock'n'roll stars, Art Gallery and Museum, Scone Hill, Aberdeenshire, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (until July 23).

London exhibitions

Work of young artists Adam Green, Colin Merria, Denise Nemitz, Cliff Resnick, Ben Uri Art Gallery, 21 Deau Street, W1; Mon to Wed 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 7.

The Last Jews in Berlin, by Leonard Gross (Sidwick & Jackson, £12.95)

The Novels of Charles Williams, by Thomas T. Howard (Oxford, £16.50)

The Renaissance Artist at Work, from Pisano to Titian, by Bruce Cole (John Murray, £12.50)

The Road to Tora, the life of Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone With the Wind*, by Anne Edwards (Pinter & Stoughton, £2.95)

The Spaghetti World, English Literature and its Background 1580-1825, by Julia Briggs (Oxford, £22.95)

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

De Lorean, the Rise and Fall of a Dream Maker, by Ivan Fallon & James Scott (Hansib Hamilton, £21.95)

Ladies to a Grandson, by Lord Home (Collins, £12.95)

Saints and Sinners, by H. N. P. Wilson (Sovereign, 28.95)

S. O. Donisthorpe, A Socialist Faith, by Robert Griffiths (Gomer, £7.95)

The Last Jews in Berlin, by Leonard Gross (Sidwick & Jackson, £12.95)

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